OAG urged to pursue the recovery of public funds used for 1st-class travel. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai! Salpan Iribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXX. Issue No. 152

www.saipantribune.com

FRIDAY JULY 31, 2020

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Two more test positive



By JUSTINE NAUTA

wo returning residents who recently flew in from Guam were confirmed positive for COVID-19 on their scheduled fifth day of testing yesterday, which brings the CNMI's total number of cases to 42.

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, July 30, 2020 NEW | TOTAL Positive 351 3 354 Recovered 297 0 297 49 3 52

	_	_	_		
Cumulative N of Persons Te		21,	678		
SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL		
Positive	40	2	42		
Deaths	2	0 2			
Cumulativo N	umbor				

*Total includes a sailor from the USS Theodore

of Persons Tested

11,759**

**Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Both CNMI residents were identified through the travel screening process and got their confirmed diagnosis during their scheduled fifth day of testing, as provided under the

See TWO on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- **Red:** Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

CCC's acting chief resigns

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

Charlie O. Atalig has stepped down from his post as the audit manager and acting executive director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

His last day with the commission will be on leon Guerrero last Monday, Aug. 7, 2020.



Ataliq

Atalig told Saipan Tribuneyesterday that he submitted his letter of resignation to CCC chair Edward De-

AT EEOC'S REQUEST CCC subpoenaed for IPI docs

» CCC chairman: \$15.5M casino license fee due Aug. 12 is non-negotiable

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The Commonwealth Casino Commission has received a subpoena from the U.S. See CHIEF on Page 4 | District Court for the NMI at

the request of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to get voluminous records of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI)

See CCC on Page 4

PSS support staff get incentive pay

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Public School System issued incentive checks to over 200 PSS support staff who were not included under the Project Restart grant.

During a Board of Education meeting last Tuesday, former PSS acting director of Finance Kimo Rosario

said 226 non-certified employees, or support staff, received their \$1,000 incentive checks yesterday.

Rosario said another \$1,000 will be issued to these support staff once local funds are transferred to PSS accounts, which is expected in the next two weeks.

PSS has been working on See PSS on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

NaRak Clothing Store opens its doors to everyone today as the new kid on the block.

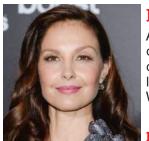
PAGE 7



OFF THE WALL

A Vermont skydiver who lost his prosthetic leg during a jump has it back.

PAGE 22



LIFE & STYLE

A federal appeals court restored a part of Ashley Judd's lawsuit against Harvey Weinstein.

PAGE 23



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE **QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED** ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



2 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

Castro: Iakopo statement unfair and not true

By IVA MAURIN

iva_maurin@saipantribune.com REPORTER

House vice speaker Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) wants Office of Veteran Affairs executive officer Stanley T. Iakopo to retract his statement and apologize to the members of the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs.

This is in reference to Iakopo's "disappointment" that meeting that he had asked for to discuss the protection of the CNMI Veterans Cemetery that was being defiled by stray cows.

At the House session Wednesday, Federal and Foreign Affairs chair Rep. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan) said Iakopo's statement is not true and unfair, adding that the meeting, which was informal and set at the last minute, was

only a few showed up for a attended by four out of the seven members of the committee, including Castro himself and the House legal counsel.

> "It was a last-minute meeting and I respected those who couldn't make it. To say a few of us were present is something that I, as the chairman of the committee, do not appreciate, because it implicated that my members didn't care deeply about the issues in the cemetery," he said.

Castro wanted it to be clear that every member of the committee respects the work of agencies that help all military and veterans matters, and are ready to assist.

"I must reiterate that the members of FFA also hold the concerns and needs of our veterans just as high as other issues that come our way. To say that we as members of FFA do not care or support our veterans and their family is not true

and unfair," he said.

He said that they remain open to addressing the concern and that the action plans that were discussed with members at the meeting remain in place. "There was a request to reach out to the regulating agency that handles the issues that OVA has been dealing with with grazers. That plan is going to be carried out. There was a talk about meeting with [Depart-

ment of Public Lands] and I'm going to keep that on the table for my members to discuss with both bodies if needed to be."

"We are doing our best to... see how we can resolve the situation," Castro added.

Rep. Ivan Blanco (R-Saipan), a member of the FFA committee, thanked Castro at the session, for "standing up for the members of the committee."

USDA releases 2018 CNMI's Census of Agriculture Data

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, together with the CNMI Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division, announce the release of the 2018 CNMI Census of Agriculture data.

USDA-NASS is the federal statistical agency that is responsible for producing official statistics about the U.S. agricultural industry. The agency collects data every five years nationwide, including the territories. This is the first update to CNMI agricultural data in over 10 years.

Below are a few highlights from the results:

- There were 253 farms.
- Land in farms totaled 1,515 acres, with average farm size of 6.0 acres.
- Total value of sales was \$1.6 million, with an average value of \$2,245 per farm.
- Vegetables and melons represented the largest category of production, with sales of \$639,000.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the statistics from the 2018 Census of Agriculture for the CNMI will help the government improve services and programs for farmers, as well as plan for resiliency.

"...With the release of the 2018 CNMI Census of Agriculture, both the federal government and our CNMI government have the full data to better assist our farmers with their produce and crops through local programs and federal grants," said Torres.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios noted that agriculture ensures local food security, healthier lifestyles, and stronger economic opportunities for farmers and the community as a whole.

"Governor Torres and I are both pleased to have the CNMI's official agriculture statistics that will help us find much needed resources to help our local farmers and the economy. This census gives us a great deal of information based on agricultural activities in the CNMI," said Palacios.

Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman said the CNMI Census of Agriculture will bring policymakers and the community together to better support CNMI farmers and ranchers.

"The CNMI's Census of Agriculture is the only comprehensive report of our agricultural statistics that is used by the federal and local government as well as the farming community for various local farming programs and policies. I want to relay my sincere appreciation to all our farmers and community stakeholders and our government agencies for contributing their valuable data, resources and efforts in making this important report possible," said Rabauliman.

The 2018 CNMI Census of Agriculture results can be found here: https://www. nass.usda.gov/Publications/ AgCensus/2017/Full Report/Outlying_Areas/cnmi.

pdf. **(PR)**





OAG urged to pursue the recovery of public funds used for first-class travel

Bv IVA MAURIN

iva maurin@saipantribune.com

Rep. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) is urging Attorney General Edward Manibusan to pursue the recovery of public funds that have been spent on government-funded first-class travel, which she described as illegal.

At the House of Representatives session Wednesday, members of the minority weighed in on the Office of the Public Auditor's draft report on government travel expenditures, noting a 27% increase among autonomous agencies, and 152% for the Executive Branch, between 2015 and 2018.

OPA also recommended the adoption of a uniform travel policy for the CNMI, but stressed that purchases of first-class, business-class, or any other premium class designation is illegal and is a clear violation of the Commonwealth law.

"It is quite distressing, depressing, disappointing. ... What suddenly happened that demanded an increase in the Executive Branch of 152%?" asked Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan). "We have Commonwealth law that prohibits first class travel, business travel, premium cost designation, but it's been violated, multiple times, and with impunity."

Propst also criticized Manibusan's silence on the matter. "How does he not make a comment on all of this? We have records of all the first-class travel that have

been made multiple times, the books, and that the abuses not just by government of- are now documented in an

travel

policy for

the CNMI

pushed

ficials but by nongovernment » Uniform officials who have traveled on taxpayer dime.

"At the very there's least, \$1,000 fine per infraction. Yet we have not heard so much as

a comment from the attorney general as to whether this is acceptable or not. Just one of our many laws that seem to be ignored and dismissed. We know the abuse that has happened with first-class travel and other things, but again, it doesn't seem to really go anywhere," Propst said.

Uniform travel policy

At the session, Sablan said that she does not agree that the Legislature has no role to play in ensuring that the government adopts a uniform travel policy. OPA recommended for lawmakers to review the current laws and suggested that the conflicts be addressed.

"We have already enacted laws that require a uniform policy, and we have also enacted laws that contradict that policy of uniformity by allowing certain agencies to adopt their own travel rules. ...I think that we should look closely at the ramifications of these conflicts and the ramifications of not having a uniform policy," she said.

Sablan noted that there are zero travel regulations in

OPA audit, and are coming to light in the investigations the Legislature is doing. "We in the Legislature absolutely have a role to play in reining in waste and abuse and ensuring that this government is

exercising fiscal prudence, and consistently with the law and travel and all expenditures."

According to Sablan, with discrepancies and outright violations of law, including illegal government-funded first-class travel, it is absolutely within the legislators' jurisdiction to exercise legislative oversight and require accountability of both Finance and the attorney general to control the expenditures of public funds and ensure compliance with public laws.

With the need for a uniform travel policy highlighted, it was also mentioned during the session that the legislators will work with, and assist the Department on Finance should help be needed to put together the uniform policy.

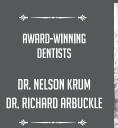




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CUC increases FAC for August

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be increasing its Fuel Adjustment Charge for the month of August in response to an increase in the average international fuel prices.

In a statement yesterday afternoon, CUC said that it has been notified by its fuel supplier, Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc., that there has been an increase in the international fuel prices that will affect the FAC.

As a result, the current FAC rate of \$0.11330

By IVA MAURIN

iva_maurin@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The House of Representatives

minority bloc presented yester-

day the results of their review

of government records, includ-

ing receipts and reimbursement

requests, as well as a statement

from a government official,

about the expenditures of Gov.

At a meeting of the House

Special Committee for Fiscal

Review of Executive Expen-

ditures, the minority bloc gave

a glimpse of the report of their

findings on the travels and

expenses charged by the gov-

ernor to the CNMI following

months of review of the docu-

ments they received under

Ralph DLG Torres.

per kWh will increase to \$0.12397 per kWh effective Aug. 1, 2020. Residential customers who use 500 kWh of power per month will pay approximately \$5.34 more in their monthly billing.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric kWh rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the CUC base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt service. This base rate has not been increased since April

Minority bloc reports on findings about Torres' expenditures

their Open Government Act

They claim their review

"points to a pattern of waste,

abuse, and possible fraud"

as well as "questionable"

The records include a fed-

eral search warrant, a receipt

of property seized by the

Federal Bureau of Investiga-

tion, a grand jury subpoena,

Despite the voluminous

documents already received

and reviewed, the lawmakers

still have yet to receive other

documents, and the special

committee have voted to issue

subpoenas to several govern-

ment agencies. The list in-

cludes the mayor of the North-

request last December.

expenses.

among others.

17, 2014

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5% differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calculation of the current FAC rate.

CUC first instituted the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause in 2009 to recover fuel

ern Islands, the Marianas

Visitors Authority, Common-

wealth Casino Commission,

CNMI Homeland Security &

Management Agency, Depart-

ment of Public Safety, and

the Department of Lands and

"...We [are] committed

to ensuring this committee

completes its investigation

within the 60 days we have

been given as members of the

special committee," said mi-

nority member Rep. Edmund

Villagomez (Ind-Saipan). "We

must not tolerate any attempts

by the administration to try a

new route or distract from the

work ahead of us, along with

any witnesses we may sub-

poena to testify."

Natural Resources.

in Guam and the Virgin Is-

lands. In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to pro-

vide customers a more accurate description of the electric rate. (Saipan Tribune)

CHIEF

From Page 1

that he has been approached with an opportunity from some people doing technology services, software development, and data processing. He said he was unable to turn down the offer to serve as one of the managing partners.

and fuel related costs, a system also used by power providers

"I wish the success of the casino gaming industry," said Atalig, adding that he is hoping things would turn around for good as he is very optimistic about the industry, whether it be Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LCC or another potential operator.

He assured that the CCC is aware as to what will happen next with the gaming industry since the process or procedure has already been studied.

Aside from being CCC's audit manager, Atalig has been

serving as acting executive director since May when Deleon Guerrero resigned as CCC executive director and then-CCC chairman Juan Sablan appointed him (Atalig) to the position in an acting capacity.

Atalig began work with CCC as an audit manager in May 2016, having previously worked at one the largest accounting firms in San Diego, California, where he worked for five years.

Atalig attended CCC's regular monthly meeting yesterday in the CCC conference room at Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai.

In his resignation letter, Atalig said he sincerely appreciates the experience and family that he has gained working at CCC. "I am grateful to you, the current commissioners, former commissioners, fellow managers, and staff for sharing your guidance, knowledge, and time with me," he said. Atalig said CCC is really one of the best places to work for in the Commonwealth and that he is honored to have been part of this family for the last four and a half years. He said he is grateful for being under Deleon Guerrero's mentorship and that he takes with him the wisdom and insight that the chairman shared with him.

"I wish for nothing but the success of our casino gaming industry. I know my separation is untimely; I wish I could disembark when the ship is sailing in calmer waters," Atalig said.

Last June, Atalig filed a complaint before CCC against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC for allegedly failing to contribute \$40 million in community benefit fund money in 2018 and 2019, as required by the Casino License Agreement. Atalig said yesterday that the complaint is still active and is moving forward.

TWO

From Page 1

CCC

From Page 1

CNMI arrival protocol.

Both individuals are in quarantine and were moved to the designated isolation area at Kanoa Resort where they will be closely monitored by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., according to a Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC statement yesterday.

It said that CHCC has already conducted the initial

At CCC's monthly board

meeting yesterday, CCC act-

ing executive director Charlie

O. Atalig disclosed that CCC's

legal counsel received the sub-

poena last June 19. However,

Atalig said, their legal counsel

was able to narrow the scope of

the information being sought.

He said the commission was

able to gather and submit the

documents two weeks ago and

that CCC received confirma-

tion last week that the EEOC

contact tracing for the two patients' most immediate contacts, which include passengers on the same flight, close family members, friends, and associates.

According to the task force statement, interventions are in place to protect the community, but since there have been a spike in cases in the last few weeks, it raises concerns in the community if preventive measures are working.

"With our level just under Blue—the safest one—more restrictions are being lifted but that should not take away the current existing precautions to prevent the spread and to keep us mindful that this still can affect our islands," said Tiava To'omata in As Lito. She applauds those who are enforcing these precautionary measures to keep community safe, especially those who are deemed at-risk such as the elderly and those with compromised immune systems.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com



NOTICE OF INACTIVE DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

The following Checking Accounts have been inactive with BankPacific for at least six months. The account owner should immediately contact the BankPacific Saipan Branch, Garapan at (670) 233-4752. The funds of each inactive account will be transferred to the Commonwealth Treasurer during the month of October 2020 (pursuant to Public Law 18-69). After such transfer, all inquiries pertaining to the account should be directed to the Commonwealth Treasurer.

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CNMI FARMERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 506027 SAIPAN, MP 96950 CONCEPCION, JAMES KENNETH B.
CONCEPCION, VICTORIA B.
P.O. BOX 505765

SHAFFEEULLAH, IRSHAAD F. SHAFFEEULLAH, MURSIDA T. PMB 848 P.O. BOX 10001 SAIPAN, MP 96950



had been able to access these documents.

When asked for comments, IPI general counsel Michael W. Dotts said the subpoena is related to the case filed by the EEOC against IPI.

Dotts said that Kelley Butcher is still the lawyer for IPI in that case, but is trying to withdraw. Dotts said IPI has not yet named a replacement for Butcher in that case.

The EEOC is suing IPI for allegedly subjecting some female VIP service hosts to unwelcome physical and verbal sexual harassment by IPI casino's male patrons—known as high rollers.

IPI has denied the allegation.

At yesterday's CCC board meeting, CCC board chair Edward Deleon Guerrero reminded IPI's new chief executive officer Donald Browne that Aug. 12—which is 13 days from yesterday—is the deadline for IPI to pay \$15.5 million as part of an annual casino license fee.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

PSS

From Page

identifying extra funding to provide incentive checks for support staff who were not included in Project Restart, an incentive program for teaching staff.

According to Tim Thornburgh, PSS Federal Programs manager, Project Restart took care of 701 teachers, instructors, teacher aides, principals, and vice principals in terms of retention incentives.

The group received their in-

centive back in December 2019 and again in April following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support staff, however, were not covered under the program and never received any incentives check until yesterday.

According to Saipan Tribune archives, all teachers, teacher aids, school administrators, substitute teachers, librarians, and other qualified school-based personnel were given \$1,000 each back in December.

The grant was intended to retain school-based personnel

and motivate them to stay for the entire school year. Each individual who qualifies got \$2,000. The first payment was back in December and the second payment of \$1,000 was initially supposed to be disbursed at the end of the school year in June.

Thornburgh discovered the Retention Incentive Program under Project Restart, a federal program that awards grants that can be used for school operations, recruitment of teachers, renewal of teachers, rewards, and performance incentives for teachers.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 **5**

















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WATCHES



Saturday & Sunday, August 01 & 02, 2020











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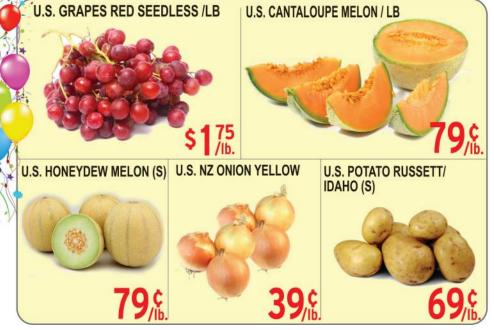
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The Dormant Deposit Accounts listed below are currently held at the Bank of Saipan and have been inactive. If you believe you have a claim to any of these accounts, please make your claim at the Chalan Kanoa Branch, Garapan, Tinian or Rota Branch of Bank of Saipan before October 1, 2020.

Pursuant to Public Law 18-69, any unclaimed deposits remaining from this list after October 1, 2020 will be paid to the "CNMI Treasurer" and delivered to the Department of Commerce, Banking Division. Therefore, any claims made after October 1, 2019 must be made at the CNMI Department of Commerce, Banking Division



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STJ Golden Island Investments LLC PO Box 505110 Saipan, MP 96950

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South Pacific Environmental CNMI Inc PO Box 1001 PMB A44 Saipan, MP 96950

Tinian EB-5 Regional Center LLC P0 Box 505110 Saipan, MP 96950

Estate of Enrique Kaipat Seman PMB 768 Box 10000 Saipan. MP 96950

Diego D Mendiola 107 Quail CT Dededo Guam, GU 96929

L&A Corporation PMB 76 Box 10003 Sainan MP 96950

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Haitian Construction Group (CNMI) Corp PMB 548 Box 10002 Freedom Dr Saipan, MP 96950

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Easylink Payment Network Hongkong Co PMB 799 Box 10003 Saipan, MP 96950

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In Choong Kang PO Box 503709 Saipan, MP 96950

Contractor wants IPI counterclaims to be dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A former contractor of the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, has asked the federal court to dismiss IPI's counterclaims against it.

In a motion filed Wednesday, Pacific Rim Land Development LLC, through counsel Colin M. Thompson, said the U.S. District Court for the NMI should consider its request to dismiss as unopposed because IPI failed to file an opposition.

Pacific Rim asked the court to dismiss IPI's counterclaims in their entirety.

Pacific Rim further asked the court to order IPI to pay the company attorney's fees in bringing its motion to dismiss.

Thompson said Pacific Rim filed and served its motion to dismiss IPI's counterclaims last June 23, yet IPI did oppose the motion by the deadline last July 7. On July 8, the parties in the lawsuit appeared in a status conference.

Thompson said he told the court at that status conference that he was contacted by IPI's new attorney and he had expected IPI's counsel to enter an appearance and submit a request to extend time to file IPI's opposition.

Last July 13, Thompson said, IPI's new counsel George Hasselback filed a notice of appearance, but did not file a request to extend the due date for the opposition.

At a status conference in this case last July 15, Thompson said he informed the court that Pacific Rim would agree to give IPI more time to file its opposition as a courtesy to IPI's new attorney. The court ordered IPI to file its opposition no later than July 22, 2020.

To date, Thompson said, IPI has not filed or serve any papers in opposition to Pacific Rim's motion to dismiss.

Pacific Rim is suing IPI and five unnamed alleged co-conspirators for breach of contract (construction and promissory note), and unjust enrichment. Pacific Rim claimed to have substantially completed or completed the agreed upon construction work on Sept. 30, 2018.

IPI then countersued for promissory fraud, fraud in the inducement as to the promissory note, violation of Consumer Protection Act, and breach of contract. IPI, through Hasselback, amended its lawsuit against Pacific Rim for promissory fraud, fraud in the inducement as to the promissory note, breach of contract, and unjust enrichment.

Hasselback alleged, among other things, that due to the delays associated with the unworkmanlike performance of Pacific Rim, IPI lost approximately \$89,342,352 in operations revenue.

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Knowledge and experience in hotel/resort as a cook is an advantage. Able to quickly memorize complex or multiple orders. The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 10-25 pounds and frequently lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Must be able to work weekends and holidays.

(2) Guest Relations Officer

High school diploma or equivalent, two years of work experience. Proficient in language: Korean or Chinese or Russian due to demographic of visitors/tourist to Saipan.

(2) Food and Beverage Supervisor

High School diploma. No more than 12 months' experience in supervisory level. Able to work on weekends, holiday and flexible

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday June 31, 2020 PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance, Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.

Great fashion finds at NaRak Clothing Store

By BEA CABRERA beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com CORRESPONDENT

aRak Clothing Store opens its doors to everyone today. The new kid on the block on the island's fashion scene aims to bring hard-to-find clothes and accessories on Saipan.

Yuki, the owner of NaRak, did not dilly dally in coming up with a solid action plan when the inspiration of putting up the store hit her 24 days ago.

"The idea behind NaRak came from what the island needs...since shopping is limited and fashion clothes are scarce, my friend in Thailand would always send me clothes. We have been doing it for quite a while and suddenly, the idea of selling clothes crossed my mind and thought 'why don't I just bring the clothes here?" she said.

"That's how NaRak was born. NaRak is a Thai word that means 'very cute' or 'very nice' just like all the items that we sell. Now, the community has more fashion choices at affordable prices," she added.

NaRak offers a wide range of retail items for men and women such as clothes, shirts

NaRak Clothing Store has a wide variety of in style and in demand fashionable clothes, caps, bags, and accessories that customers can choose from.

caps, and accessories.

"For women, we have nice party dresses, swimwear, beach wear, and Thai long pants that are easy to wear anytime. For men, we have nice brand T- shirts, fashion hoodies, Hawaiian shirts, and fashionable caps, to name a few," Yuki said.

"We also have Thai woven sandals and shoes that are perfect for the island life and they come in different de-

and polo shirts, shoes, bags, items we have here are practical, follows the islandlifestyle, and whatever I think is needed on island. We have it in the store so people do not have to resort to buy online," Yuki added.

> For their grand opening promotion, NaRak is giving away \$50, \$30, and \$20 vouchers for the first three people who can share NaRak's Facebook page and get 500 reactions. The vouchers are consumable only with

Yuki is in tune with the times as she is keenly aware of the trends on island and understand the influences in fashion and what can be in demand. "Our prices range from \$20 to \$60... we are not too expensive because I want to make fashionable wear available at reasonable prices so that everyone can avail of the items we sell and our customers can be assured of updated fashion on clothes and accessories

"I am the kind of person that if I want to do something, I do it right away and NaRak is similar to that. You don't have to buy online and wait for a long time for the shipment to arrive. Now, you have an option near you to fill your clothing or fashion needs right away," Yuki added.

NaRak Clothing Store is located along Chalan Mosingnor Guerrero across the Mobil Gas station. They are open 10am-6pm. For more information, call (670) 488-0617 or go to their Facebook page: NaRak Clothing Store.

Beat the summer heat while being fash-

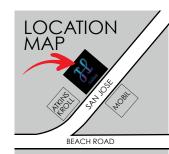
ionable with NaRak's many caps in dif-

Thai woven sandals and shoes avail-

able in different sizes are perfect for

ferent designs and stlyes.

that island vibe.





Location: San Jose, Oleai (Next to Atkins Kroll, Across Mobil Station) | Store Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Mon - Sat) | Contact: 488-0617

8 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



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10 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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Back to church

By MARY WISNIEWSKI Chicago Tribune

Mary Wisniewski is a Chicago writer and the author of Algren: A Life.



've been going to church again, and it's weird.

Not bad weird, or good weird. Just surreal weird, like a banana with a mustache. It's like a lot of things during this pandemic—not quite good enough, but better than nothing and the best we can do. It's a little bit tiresome, and a little bit funny.

Chicago's houses of worship started opening again in late June, but with lots of rules to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. At first, only 50 people were allowed in our Roman Catholic church at a time, according to Archdiocese of Chicago rules, and everyone had to be masked and keep 6 feet of distance. The crowd limit has since risen to 75, with the same rules in place, but the numbers haven't gone that high yet. People are nervous, or they don't want to sit in a hot building in a face mask for an hour.

The Sanctus, Gloria and other parts of the Mass are being spoken, not sung, by the congregation, to avoid the spread of the virus. Hymns are sung only by a cantor, with a pianist accompanying. People have to register to go to Mass, as if they were reserving a table at a chic restaurant, and get checked off before they go in, so we know who was there and allow for contact tracing in case someone gets sick.

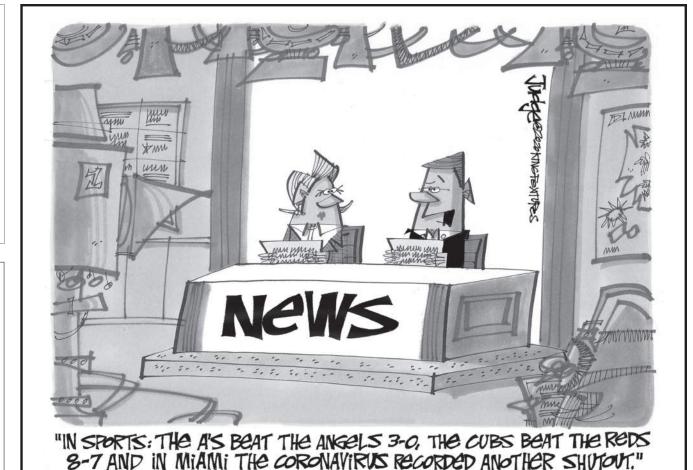
Eager for any kind of change, I signed up at my Northwest Side parish to be one of the social distancing volunteers who make sure everyone's following the rules. We stand at the back, squirt sanitizer into cupped hands as people enter the building, give masks to the maskless and check off names. Then we go up front during Communion, to direct traffic and spray people's hands again with another, quickdrying sanitizer before they receive the Eucharist. While distributing the host, the pastor wears both a mask and a clear plastic face shield, so he looks like a cross between a cleric and a Blackhawks goalie.

Churches, like grocery stores, are decorated coronavirus-style—with duct tape on the floors telling you how far to stand apart, and which direction to go. In our parish, blue duct-tape arrows point you up the center aisle toward the altar—and green tape marks 6-foot distances. On the side aisles, arrows made of yellow tape point you the way out. On the pews, blue tape crosses mark which pews can be used and which can't.

After Mass, more masked volunteers show up to clean the pews where people have sat, and the door handles they touched. Everywhere is the smell of disinfectant.

When I'm not on hand-sanitizer duty, I cantor, singing from the ambo. But I miss the choir—who knows when we can gather again? It's strange to look out on all those masked faces, as though we were holding service in a typhoid ward, or during the London Blitz. I wonder if people

See BACK on Next Page



Cancel 'cancel culture'

eeing the rise of "cancel culture" can lead one to despair. But don't believe the hype. Virtue is not being canceled. Most Americans, in fact, believe forgiveness is an essential part of a just society.

Consider a recent survey by the CATO Institute. It revealed that 49% of all Americans say cancel culture is negative. Only 27% said "cancel culture" has a positive impact on society. The poll suggests that Americans are more forgiving than the swordfighters who constantly seek revenge on social media platforms.

According to CATO's survey, "nearly two-thirds—62%—of Americans say the political climate these days prevents them from saying things they believe because others might find them offensive." Even more alarming, the share of Americans who self-censor has alarmingly risen several points since 2017.

And these fears cut across party lines: "52% of Democrats, 59% of independents, and 77% of Republicans agree they have political opinions they are afraid to share," the survey notes.

Cancel culture is a direct assault on the construct of forgiveness. It seeks not to fix, but to destroy. It's the poisonous pill that fatally blocks a prescriptive cure for human weaknesses. It diametrically opposes forgiveness, an age-old virtue central not only to the Christian faith, but even to our nation's founding.

Alexander Hamilton left a footprint for forgiveness in Federalist No. 74, where he noted how the president must be able to make exceptions in his power of the pardon for "unfortunate guilt," otherwise, the justice system would be "too sanguinary and cruel." Additionally, Hamilton pointed out, presidents may need to use clemency to subdue discontent or insurrection and thereby "restore the tranquility of the commonwealth."

Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution thus authorizes the president to grant pardons and other forms of clemency involving "offenses against the United States." Understanding that human beings are flawed and biased, pardons were established as a safety valve to mitigate or remedy injustice.

In 1795, President George Washington said in his annual address to Congress that he was motivated to show mercy and serve the public good by pardoning two men charged with treason after the Whiskey Rebellion. Washington's display of forgiveness laid a foundation for how future Presidents would use clemency.

This power has been used often. P.S. Ruckman Jr., a political scientist and editor of the blog Pardon Power, counts just over 30,000 individual acts of presidential elemency from Presidents Washington to Obama.

Imagine if we were founded on the notion of public shaming and humiliation, exterminating without due process everyone with whom we disagreed. The Salem witch trials show just how a temporarily crazed society did act under such tyrannical rule.

The American identity exhibits greater dimensions to freedom.

By ANGELA SAILOR The Heritage Foundation

A Heritage Foundation vice president, Angela Sailor directs the think tank's Feulner Institute.



As members of a civil society, we must reclaim this identity.

We have a legal system designed to punish criminal behavior; ethics map out the parameters of acceptable behavior, and societal norms as a whole dictate whom to honor or admire, or associate with or engage. But cancel culture militates against all these mediating habits and institutions, and that's why it must stop. We need to confront our failures and provide enough space and flexibility to ensure freedom of expression and debate and to avoid abuses by the gladiators who cowardly seek to eliminate the existence of those that they disagree with or are offended by.

Frederick Douglass' extraordinary ability to say to his former owner, Hugh Auld, "I love you, but hate slavery," is an incredible example of how we must separate the actor's "action" from the person. The man who "had struck down my personality, had subjected me to his will, had made the property of my body and soul" was no enemy, Douglass explained: "He was to me no longer a slaveholder either in fact or in spirit, and I regarded him as I did myself, a victim of the circumstances of birth, education, law, and custom."

We find the most references to forgiveness in the Christian New Testament. The story most often cited (Luke 15:11-32) is of the prodigal son who squandered his father's inheritance, then humbly returned to his loving father's arms. To his surprise (and that of many readers for two millennia), his father unconditionally accepts and loves him despite his moral failings.

Today, however, everyone is judge and jury, looking down the barrel of conformity and ignoring a just society's standards. Cancel culture must be canceled. Forgiveness must be our pillar of justice.

In 1772, an English slave trader named John Newton was transporting slaves from Africa and confronted a vicious storm. His craft was severely weather-beaten, compelling him to call out to God for mercy and deliverance. Newton subsequently led a movement to abolish the slave trade in 1788. He also wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace." Its immortal words continue to remind Americans that forgiveness and redemption are possible regardless of sins committed. "I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. ..."

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish

and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

What kind of country will America be?

Are we going to "build back better"? Or are we going to "transition to greatness"? Are we fighting for the "soul of America"? Or are we undergoing a "tremendous" epoch that emphasizes "America First" and excludes everyone else?

Personally, I would like to go out to dinner, hug family and friends without worrying about getting or giving COVID-19, spend a few dollars without anxiety, see a movie, go to a concert and deal with the news without a clenching feeling in the stomach. But that all seems out of reach right now.

Quietude, without constant outrage, would be excellent.

But we are called to more profound issues.

Should we be the conscience of the world, sticking up for and demanding human rights? Or should we be in it for what we as a country can get, mostly material?

Should we strive to make people around the world respect and admire our country? Or should we settle for being an object of pity, a remembrance of things past.

Are we going to sacrifice now for a better future for our children? Or are we going to tell children they are on their own and good luck. Don't get sick. Educate yourself. Look out for your little sister and brother. Cinch your belt tighter. Hope you can get a good job someday.

Are we going to tell parents they have to choose between their jobs or watching over their children?

Are we going to help the struggling middle class and smallbusiness owner or give another round of tax cuts to the wealthy so they can buy a baby blue Lamborghini and more stock?

Will we offer refuge to persecuted families from other lands seeking a part of the American dream? Or just announce that dream is dead. Doors shut.

Are we going to ensure that every eligible American can vote, vote safely and have that vote counted? Or are we the country that will do our best to make sure that the rich and well-off, with currently approved skin tones, are the ones who control the future.

Are we going to do everything we possibly can to keep foreign interference out of our elections? Or just accept that the foreign hackers are here, well entrenched, welcomed by those in power and active. So what.

Are we going to continue to be that country whose top law enforcement official sends jackbooted thugs into cities to beat up protesters and snubs his nose at members of Congress questioning his actions? Or are we going to realize that law and order and the Constitution, including the First Amendment, are compatible.

Will we be the people who provide proper personal protective gear for medical workers and first responders? Or will we be the country that tolerates corruption running rampant in procurement and contracting, advocates ineffective and dangerous treatments and assures people all is well when it isn't.

Will we hold everyone to the same rule of law or will we permit the powerful and favored few to become wealthy beyond imagination at our expense?

Are we going to rebuild our roads, bridges, ports and electric grid? Or do we spend the money on big corporations, hoping

By ANN MCFEATTERS

Tribune News Service

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they will build a little in exchange for becoming too big to fail?

Are we going to help save the world from extreme temperatures, famines, droughts, flooding, plagues and dramatic loss of species? Or will we work with other nations to stop manmade damage to the environment.

Do we want to close our borders to those who weren't born Americans? Or do we want to encourage young scholars to come to America, study in our universities, learn our culture and help make more corners of the Earth better off, giving back to us as much as they get along the way?

Do we want to know that what our political leaders tell us is the truth, even when it is unpleasant, or continue to shrug our shoulders at what we are told because everyone knows it is all lies.

Do we want continued outrage and drama and titillation? Or do we seek measured response, competence, fairness and civility. Really, people. Who are we?

Workers need the right to sue

"n late April, poultry processor Pilgrim's Pride transferred Maria Hernandez from her usual job to another department at its plant in Lufkin, Texas. Her sons say Hernandez's boss-Les didn't give her proper protective gear. And they didn't warn the 63-year-old that she would be working in a hot spot where other workers had already fallen ill from COVID-19.

When Hernandez, who worked at the plant for 30 years, started feeling sick, she continued to show up for her shift for fear of being fired. On May 8, she was found dead in her homeone of more than 90 meat and poultry plant workers who've succumbed to the virus. More than 17,000 have already been

Hernandez's sons are now suing Pilgrim's Pride for putting their mother in harm's way. But if Senate Republicans get their way, that check on corporate misbehavior may prove yet another victim of the pandemic.

Having failed to control the outbreak, Republicans are now trying to make it easier for companies to get away with putting their employees at greater risk. In the current stimulus package

BACK

From Page 10

are singing along silently, in their heads.

Sitting in the hot church on a recent Sunday with my mask, fanning myself with the petitions, I remembered a nun I had in grade school, Sister Harriet, a tough old bird with a gift for allegory. She used to compare the Eucharist to a diamond. She told us, "It doesn't matter what you do with a diamond—it's still a diamond. You can mount it in a beautiful ring, surrounded with rubies, or you can stick it onto a piece of cardboard with Scotch tape, and it's still a diamond, just presented in a different way. You can have Mass in a cathedral with gold chalices and a big choir and everyone dressed up, or you can have it in a tent in the jungle with everyone in rags—the Eucharist is the same. That's what's important."

Mass in masks, or music concerts on Zoom, or birthdays with a car parade, or anything else that's been changed and reduced because of the coronavirus, are like that diamond taped to a piece of cardboard. They're kind of ugly and awkward and not right, not what we're used to, not what seems proper.

But they're also OK. We're still being human together, while being responsible for each other's safety. Because that's what the pandemic rules are about—caring for each other beyond our own comfort. The mask-wearing and the social distancing and the tape on the floors are clumsy reminders of the ideal of all religions, to love one another as we love ourselves, to be each other's servants. And we laugh to keep from crying.

Here's hoping it's a lesson we can carry beyond the pandemic, whenever that day comes.

negotiations, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said in mid-July that he would not budge on his demand that employers receive a shield against lawsuits over COVID-19. And he hasn't.

"The American people will not see their historic recovery gobbled up by trial lawyers who are itching to follow the pandemic with a second epidemic of frivolous lawsuits," the Kentucky Republican said recently on the Senate floor.

Everyone is eager to see a strong economic recovery. But letting corporate executives cut corners on employee safety will only prolong the public health and economic crisis. Infections and deaths for ordinary employees will increase.

There is nothing frivolous about that.

Democratic leaders have opposed this exemption for employer liability. They are pushing for tighter workplace health and safety standards and say the best way for companies to protect themselves against potential COVID-19-related lawsuits is to closely follow those guidelines.

Workers need the right to pursue legal recourse against employers that engage in life-threatening recklessness. They would still need to prove their cases in court, where the legal burden for plaintiffs is already too high.

Without the right to sue, the playing field between bosses and workers would be even more tilted. The fact that Maria Hernandez, a faithful 30-year employee, was afraid she'd be fired if she

By SARAH ANDERSON

Tribune News Service

Sarah Anderson directs the Global Economy Project and co-edits Inequality.org at the Institute for Policy Studies. This column was produced for the Progressive Media Project, which is run by The Progressive magazine, and distributed by Tribune News Service.



stayed home speaks volumes about the inequities that already exist. She risked her life in order to work, and lost, while her boss, outgoing Pilgrim's Pride CEO William Lovette, got a \$15 million golden parachute.

If Republicans get their way, the company's current top executives wouldn't have to worry anymore about being held accountable for Hernandez's death. Under McConnell's proposal, corporate immunity for nearly all COVID-19-related cases would be retroactive to December 2019 and last through 2024.

For corporate CEOs, that's like a five-year "get out of jail free card" for jeopardizing the health and safety of their workers while threatening the overall economic recovery.

C.O.V.I.D.: Connolly Opens Valid Informative **Discussions**

We Heard Ole Grouchy Where's Dr. Fauci?

double sonnet on it

- A America's crisis is
- B best known as
- C COVID 19
- D Doctor and
- E Educator Paul
- F Fauci, epidemiologist,
- G Gives the nation H - Health tips and
- I Information about it
- J Judiciously and
- K Kindly television
- L Lectures to
- M Media and
- N News papers

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey aka Pepe Batbon is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who eniovs stargazing.

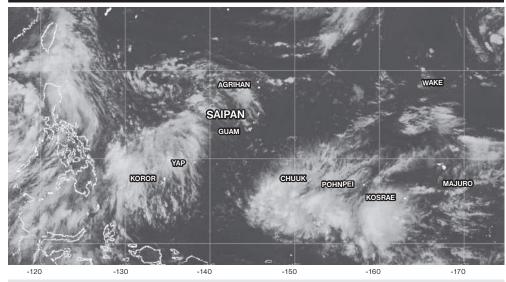


- O Online for free
- P People listen
- Q Quiz and query
- R Reality about coronavirus
- S Seems like some need
- T To practice and
- U Use information about the
- V Virus and remedies
- W Wisdom will prevail with X - X rays, electron microscopes
- Y Youth need social distancing
- Z Zounds! Heard Ole Grouchy where is Dr. Fauci?
- 4 45 failed lie fact-checks
- 5 5000 times or more.

12 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN SUNDAY TUESDAY Mostly cloudy. A Partly cloudy with Partly cloudy with Partly cloudy with Mostly cloudy with chance of showers and isolated and a slight chance thunderstorms of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph. **78º** 890 **78º** 890 **78º** Rgo **78º** 880 **78º** 880 YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:31 AM, THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows scattered showers west of the Marianas, moving away. Only isolated showers are seen elsewhere, and are expected to continue moving through the Marianas waters today. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, composed mainly of east trade-wind swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

he Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas

to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
 Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or
- outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

 Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand,
- wash your hands before doing anything else.
 Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www. cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

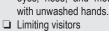
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ☐ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not avail-

able, use an alcoholbased hand sanitizer.

Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth





CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @ GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's CO-VID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESI	A	▲ ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Showers	86° / 78°
Kosrae	Showers	86° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:59 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	5:59 AM	6:47 PM
Sunday	5:59 AM	6:46 PM
Monday	5:59 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	2:28 AM	3:52 PM
Saturday	-	3:23 AM	4:50 PM
Sunday	-	4:19 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	-	5:16 AM	6:37 PM
Tuesday	-	6:12 AM	7:23 PM

AROUND TH	E GLOBE	≜ ▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 50°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	88° / 73°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	70° / 55°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	82° / 68°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	55° / 36°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
New York	Mostly Sunny	83° / 68°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	91° / 77°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	75° / 59°
Busan	Showers	82° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	93° / 73°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	87° / 69°
San Francisco	Sunny	68° / 55°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°
Tokyo	Rain	84° / 73°
Washington, DC	Sunny	87° / 68°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET						
3:44 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.07				
11:22 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.06				
6:42 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.91				
11:41 PM	LOW TIDE	1.41				

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				AR	RIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)		GUAM	(GUM)-SAII	PAN				
UA 117	7:30AM	8:10AM	1,4,6		UA 174	5:50AM	6:30AM	1,4,6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

					-		
SAIPAN	TO ROTA			1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily
FLIGHT # 1301.2 1303	DEPARTURE 8:30AM 3:30PM	ARRIVAL 9:00AM 4:00PM	FREQUENCY Tues/Fri Tues/Fri	1208	14:00	14:15	Unavailable Temporarily Unavailable
1000	0.001 IVI	4.001 W	1003/111	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
ROTA TO	SAIPAN			1210 1211	16:00 17:00	16:15 17:15	Daily Temporarily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	17:00	17:13	Unavailable
3101.2 3103	9:30AM 4:30PM	10:00AM 5:00PM	Tues/Fri Tues/Fri	1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO	O GUAM			TINIAN	TO SAIPAN		
FLIGHT # 3401	DEPARTURE 12:15	ARRIVAL 12:45	FREQUENCY Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT # 2101	DEPARTURE 7:30	ARRIVAL 7:45	FREQUENCY Temporarily Unavailable
ĺ				2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
GUAM T	O ROTA			2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily
	TO TINIAN						Unavailable
FLIGHT # 1201	DEPARTURE 7:00	ARRIVAL 7:15	FREQUENCY Temporarily	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7.00	7.10	Unavailable	2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily				Unavailable
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2110 2111	16:30 17:30	16:45 17:45	Daily Temporarily
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily	2111	17.50	17.73	Unavailable
			Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable				Unavailable



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
 *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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Man who fired guns on Rota gets two years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A man who repeatedly fired guns while intoxicated at his house in Sinapalo 3, Rota, pleaded guilty last Tuesday and was slapped with a twoyear prison term.

Nicolas A. Songsong, 44, pleaded guilty to the unlawful discharge of a firearm as part of a plea deal. The offense carries a fine of not more than \$5,000, a term of imprisonment of not more than five years, or both.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja sentenced Songsong to five years imprisonment, all suspended except for two years, to be served day for day without furlough or any form of release.

Songsong will not be eligible for parole. He was given credit of nine days of time served in jail after his arrest. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000 during his probation. After completing his prison term, he will be placed on five years' probation. He will also forfeit the three firearms he used to commit the offense. He must also cooperate with the Department of Public Safety and tell police officers where they are.

Man, 54, arrested for alleged sex abuse of 11-year-old girl

arrested Tuesday morning in Chalan Kanoa a 54-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused an 11-yearold girl on several occasions.

Rudolph Rudolph was set to be taken before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho Tuesday afternoon for a bail hearing on charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the first and second degrees. Rudolph's initial bail was set at \$50,000 cash.

Police detective Shannon Dela Cruz stated in her report that Department of Public Safety's central sent units last Monday afternoon to the Division of Youth Services office in response to a report of a case involving sexual abuse of a minor.

Dela Cruz said a DYS personnel told a responding police officer that a witness told the girl's mother last July 18 that she saw Rudolph sexually abusing the child and that the girl said that Rudolph would sexually abuse her whenever her grandmother falls asleep after getting drunk. The detective said the mother reported the matter to DYS last July 20. That same day, the child was seen at the Children's Clinic. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Among the conditions of his probation is that Songsong shall not possess firearms or ammunition.

According to the plea agreement, Songsong fired the guns on Jan. 19, 2020, on Rota, without a permit from DPS, as per regulations and not for any purpose.

Chief Prosecutor John Bradley said the misuse of firearms in the Commonwealth is a very serious offense. "We are very grateful that no one was injured when Songsong went on a rampage against his girlfriend, firing off guns and endangering the community," Bradley said.

Assistant public defender Jean Pierre Nogues served as counsel for Songsong. When asked for comments, he said yesterday that the defendant accepted full responsibility for his action and he cooperated with law enforcement to ensure that the firearms in his possession that night were safely accounted for and turned over to the police.

Nogues said Songsong voluntarily flew out from Rota for his guilty plea and sentencing.

"He has the full support of his loving family. I know they wish him the best as he serves his sentence," the lawyer said.

Songsong was arrested on the day of the incident on charges of unlawful discharge of a firearm, assault with a dangerous weapon, possession or use of weapon while under the influence of alcohol, and disturbing the peace.

Police detective Ben H. Atalig stated in his report that the central dispatch of the Rota DPS received a call last Jan. 19 at 2:51am, from a woman who asked for the police's help. Upon arriving, police officers noticed a pickup truck leave the area. As the officers approached the house, the caller told the officers that her boyfriend, Songsong, shot their house then drove off in the truck

At 5:12am that same day, police officers saw Songsong outside his home. Songsong allegedly walked in an aggressive manner toward the two police officers and was argumentative and uncooperative. The officers subdued Songsong, who allegedly resisted.

Police said at least two adults and one minor were inside the house when Songsong fired the guns inside.

Investigators learned that prior to the incident, Songsong was already extremely intoxicated and belligerent during a family gathering.

The girlfriend said she was inside the bedroom of their house when she heard the noise of multiple gunshots. She was afraid to look outside until the gunshots had stopped.

Police recovered multiple shell casings from a 12-gauge shotgun, a .410 and a .30 caliber firearm in front of Songsong's house.

Investigators also observed damage to a glass above a kitchen door and damage to a wall inside the house from what appeared to be from a shotgun-type bullet.

Investigators located break-type shotgun in a grassy area across the street from Songsong's house.

Investigators also discovered multiple ammunitions similar to that found at

BECQ reduces lab fee for nitrate sampling analysis

The CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has temporarily reduced its fee for the analysis of nitrate sampling performed by the Division of Environmental Quality's Environmental Surveillance Laboratory.

Pursuant to the CNMI Drinking Water Regulation, the nitrate sampling fee is revised from \$60 per sample to \$40 per sample. This fee change will remain in effect until further notice.

In a recent public notice, BECQ reminded the community that periodic nitrate sampling and analysis by Public Water Systems is required under CNMI and federal regulations.

"BECQ understands that the significant reduction in the number of flights leaving the CNMI as a result of CO-VID-19 may make it more difficult and/or costly for public water systems to ship out nitrate samples for processing," said BECQ administrator Eli D. Cabrera.

"The Environmental Surveillance Laboratory's new...

machine allows for more efficient and cost-effective nitrate sampling, so we here at BECQ determined that we have the capacity to process nitrate samples at a reduced rate without negatively impacting the operational expenses of the laboratory," said BECQ laboratory manager Chat G. Bautista.

The public is encouraged to contact the DEQ Environmental Surveillance Laboratory Branch at 664-8500/8520 if they have any questions. (PR)



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SAIPAN LOCATIONS Paseo de Marianas. Garapan



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Man who fired guns on Rota gets two years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

A man who repeatedly fired guns while intoxicated at his house in Sinapalo 3, Rota, pleaded guilty last Tuesday and was slapped with a twoyear prison term.

Nicolas A. Songsong, 44, pleaded guilty to the unlawful discharge of a firearm as part of a plea deal. The offense carries a fine of not more than \$5,000, a term of imprisonment of not more than five years, or both.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja sentenced Songsong to five years imprisonment, all suspended except for two years, to be served day for day without furlough or any form of release.

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FBI, Guam Labor warn of scams targeting stimulus funds

TAMUNING, Guam—The FBI Honolulu Division is currently working with the Guam Department of Labor regarding fraud cases involving the attempted theft of funds intended for Guam citizens who are unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The true victims of these fraud crimes are unemployed citizens who are relying on these benefits to feed their families," said FBI Honolulu special agent in charge Eli S. Miranda. "The FBI will continue working with government and law enforcement partners to stop those who illegally profit on the backs of taxpayers. It is important during times of crisis, we all remain vigilant to the numerous types of scams that divert

resources from genuine recovery efforts."

Nationwide, the FBI has seen a spike in fraudulent unemployment insurance claims related to the ongoing COV-ID-19 pandemic involving the use of stolen personally identifiable information.

Fraudsters are increasingly targeting individuals through "work from home" opportunities or dating websites to use as money mules. These money mules are asked to receive funds in their personal bank account and then "process" or "transfer" funds via wire transfer, ACH, mail, or money service businesses, such as Western Union or MoneyGram.

Many victims of identity theft related to unemployment insurance claims do not know they have been targeted until they try to file a claim for unemployment insurance benefits, receive a notification from the government unemployment insurance agency, receive an IRS Form 1099-G showing the benefits collected from unemployment insurance, or get notified by their employer that a claim has been filed while the victim is still employed.

Suspicious

The FBI advises the public to be on the lookout for the following suspicious activities:

- Receiving communications regarding unemployment insurance forms when you have not applied for unemployment benefits;
 - Unauthorized transac-

tions on your bank or credit card statements related to unemployment benefits;

- Any fees involved in filing or qualifying for unemployment insurance;
- Unsolicited inquires related to unemployment benefits;
- Fictitious websites and social media pages mimicking those of government agencies

Protect yourself

■ Be wary of telephone calls and text messages, letters, websites, or emails that require you to provide your personal information or other sensitive information, especially birth dates and Social Security numbers. Be cautious with attachments and embedded links within email, especially from an un-

known email sender.

- Make yourself aware of methods fraudsters are using to obtain PII and how to combat them by following security tips issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, including:
- Avoiding Social Engineering and Phishing Attacks Protecting Against Malicious Code Preventing and Responding to Identity Theft
- Monitor your bank accounts on a regular basis and request your credit report at least once a year to look for any fraudulent activity. If you believe you are a victim, review your credit report more frequently. Immediately report unauthorized transactions to your financial institution or credit card provider. If you suspect you are a victim, immediately contact the three major credit

bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit records. Additionally, notify the Internal Revenue Service by filing an Identity Theft Affidavit (IRS Form 14039) through irs.gov or identitytheft.gov.

If you believe you have been targeted to act as a money mule or a victim of identity theft related to fraudulent unemployment insurance claims. report the fraud to the Guam FBI Office at (671) 472-7465, the Guam Department of Labor at pua.fraud@dol.guam. gov, the IRS, credit bureaus, and your employer's human resources department. The FBI encourages victims to report fraudulent or any suspicious activities to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov. You may consult identitytheft.gov for help in reporting and recovering from identity theft. (PR)

Ah Bank of Hawaii

NOTICE OF INACTIVE BANK ACCOUNTS

The following checking and savings accounts have been inactive for six months or more with Bank of Hawaii. The account owners should immediately contact Bank of Hawaii Gualo Rai Branch at (670) 322-4200. Otherwise, the funds of each inactive account will be transferred to the CNMI Treasurer by October 1, 2020 (pursuant to Public Law 18-69, Section 4(b), The Commonwealth Escheatment Act of 2013 (The "Act") and Department of Commerce regulations at NMAC20-20.4. After such transfer, all inquiries pertaining to the account should be directed to the Office of Banking Division, Commonwealth Department of Commerce.

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JUNG SOOK HONG

2955 ROYAL PALM WAY

TALLAHASSEE FL 32309

SEUNG CHUN KIM

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BRIGIDO S HERNANDEZ

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301 W BRIARCREST DR FRIN TN 37061 MARY S MCGEE DBA PLUMERIA LANGUAGE & WELLNESS

PMR 309 PO BOX 10001 SAIPAN MP 96950 MD ABDUL MABUD PO BOX 505680 SAIPAN MP 96950 PRECILA J MEJIA PO BOX 5132 CHRI

SAIPAN MP 96950

4h Bank of Hawaii

NOTICE OF INACTIVE BANK ACCOUNTS The following checking and savings accounts have been inactive for six months or more with Bank of Hawaii. The account owners should immediately contact Bank of Hawaii Gualo Rai Branch at (670) 322-4200. Otherwise, the funds of each inactive account will be transferred to the CNMI Treasurer by October 1, 2020 (pursuant to Public Law 18-69, Section 4(b), The Commonwealth Escheatment Act of 2013 (The "Act") and Department of Commerce regulations at NMAC20-20.4. After such transfer, all inquiries pertaining to the account should be directed to the Office of Banking Division, Commonwealth Department of Commerce.

PACIFIC SUSTAINABILITY, INC. XIANGYI MENG PO BOX 7269 SVRB PEI WANG SAIPAN MP 96950 85 CORTE PATENCIO GREENBRAE CA 94904 BEATRICE LEONA S PALACIOS PUALANI M PALACIOS MICHAEL F MENORCA GINA M CRISOSTOMO PO BOX 7329 SVRB PLIALANI M PALACIOS SAIPAN MP 96950-7329 PO BOX 500534 CK MICRONESIA AIR EXPRESS (MAX) SAIPAN MP 96950 CORPORATION **NECY R PALACIOS** PMR 761 PO BOX 10001 PO ROX 504841 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAMUEL LMOK REMIGIO M PAMINTUAN PMB 1031 PO BOX 10000 PO BOX 503531 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAMUEL LMOK YUWFI PAN PMB 1031 PO BOX 10000 PMB 114 PO BOX 10003 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 BRIANNA C PANGELINAN NICOLAS MUNA PO BOX 502031 PO BOX 500880 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 EVELYN P PANGELINAN JONNE ALVEY C NAVARRO MANUEL P KING PO BOX 505866 PO BOX 504525 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 BEVERLY S NGIRMEKUR RAFFY B PANGELINAN PO BOX 5338 CHRR PMB 1167 111 CHALAN BALAKO SAIPAN MP 96950 DEDEDO GU 96929 WALTER NICHOLS TERESITA P PANGELINAN ITE KAI GARDINER NICHOLS PO BOX 501263 PMB 503 PPP BOX 10000 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 GUN YOUNG PARK PO BOX 10002 PMB 240 ROGER J NIFLSEN SAIPAN MP 96950 MELINDA WELLS 3116 40TH AVE S ANNALYN A PASCASIO MINNEAPOLIS MN 55406 PO BOX 501670 SAIPAN MP 96950 LUISE Q NOISOM ANNABELLE J PASCUAL PO BOX 501189 PO BOX 503079 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORP PDJ INTERNATIONAL INC PO ROX 500514 PO BOX 500768 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORP JARIYAPORN PHATTHONG PO ROX 500514 PMB 10 BOX 10005 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 NORTHERN MARIANAS WRESTLING BRIGIDA P PINAULA FEDERATION PO BOX 501943 PO BOX 503903 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 RODERICK P PIOL LOURDES NICOLE T OCAYA PO BOX 502310 PO BOX 500770 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 MARDETTE JOY M PITTMAN PO BOX 50480 DOYEON OH SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 502370 SAIPAN MP 96950 PRIMO DOMINGO J PO BOX 504921 BRYAN JERNAINE A ORENCIA SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 505509 SAIPAN MP 96950 PRESTLEY LAW, LLC NANCY P ORFNSE

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JUANITO M SINGSON JR PO BOX 506343 SAIPAN MP 96950 PETER S SOLIS DBA HILL TOP FARM MAIL EX 456 PO BOX 10005 SAIPAN MP 96950 RUSSEL R SOLOMON PO BOX 504492 SAIPAN MP 96950 LUJIA SONG PMB 1043 PO BOX 10000 SAIPAN MP 96950 ROSA C SORENSEN JOHN E SORENSEN 5800 CAPITAL HILL SAIPAN MP 96950 HAL J SPOTT PMB 924 PPP BOX 10000 SAIPAN MP 96950 DBA CSP FARM PO ROX 506268 SAIPAN MP 96950 SUGAR KING FOUNDATION PO ROX 500068 SAIPAN MP 96950 LIZA M TAMBA PO BOX 505896 CK SAIPAN MP 96950 JOSEPHINE R TENGSON PO BOX 506367 SAIPAN MP 96950 PATRICK JAMES M TENORIO JR PO BOX 503395 SAIPAN MP 96950 CARMEN T TEREGEYO PO BOX 7444 SVRR SAIPAN MP 96950 CHARLES C TORRES PO BOX 504353 DBA KEYNOTES SCHOOL OF MUSIC SAIPAN MP 96950 MARY FHELD TORRES PO BOX 5740 CHRB SAIPAN MP 96950 ROWINA MARIE O TORRES PO ROX 505123 SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 502080 SAIPAN MP 96950 TORCUATO YSIDORO C TUDELA PO BOX 503256 SAIPAN MP 96950 MA JEFYRIN D TUMI OS PO ROX 505716 SAIPAN MP 96950 SAIPAN MP 96950 BRUCE A SIEWERT U.S. CHENG HAI INTERNATIONAL TERESA A SIEWERT DBA CHENG HAI TOUR PROGRAM 44 LAKE FRONT RD PMB 3852 BOX 10001 CANON GA 30520 SAIPAN MP 96950

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SAIPAN MP 96950

PMB 158 PO BOX 10002

WENDY VICTORIA WOLCOTT

1499 MEDICAL PARK DR # 401

BOULDER CITY NV 89005-2373

WINSHARING (USA) CORPORATIO

UMDA WHOLESALE/RETAIL INC DBA ISLAND APPRAISAL PO BOX 502912 SAIPAN MP 96950-2912 ELISHAH MAE P VALDEZ PO ROX 504330 SAIPAN MP 96950 MIKE I VALENCIA 1038 JENNINGS AVE APT 303 SANTA ROSA CA 95401 EUGENIO I VARGAS JR EMILY V VARGAS PO BOX 504685 SAIPAN MP 96950 EUGENIO I VARGAS JR PO ROX 504685 SAIPAN MP 96950 VERONICA C SONGAO DBA CHUMBAI'S LAWN & CARE PO ROX 8172 SVRR SAIPAN MP 96950 MYLA R VICENCIO PO BOX 503013 SAIPAN MP 96950 MICHAEL ANGELO A VILLAGOMEZ 12231 BINGHAM ST ARTESIA CA 90701 MAGDALENA P VILLAGOMEZ PO BOX 501635 SAIPAN MP 96950 ELIJAH CARMONA VILLARMERO PO BOX 502399 SAIPAN MP 96950 JOSEPHINE B VILLOCINO PO BOX 501668 SAIPAN MP 96950 CHING LIN-HAN WANG PO BOX 500339 SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 505752 SAIPAN MP 96950 HAORAN WANG PO BOX 506268 SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 10001 PMB 149 SAIPAN MP 96950 ITE CHRISTOPHER TAMAI WEATHERSBEE PO BOX 503752 SAIPAN MP 96950 PO BOX 502110 SAIPAN MP 96950

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Member FDIC ©2020

DFEMS chief Mendiola will be running as a Republican

Department of Fire and **Emergency Medical Services** Commissioner Dennis James Camacho Mendiola said Tuesday that he is running for the lone Rota senatorial seat on Rota as a Republican.

It will be Mendiola's first time to seek an elected position.

Mendiola, 40, is expected to challenge the incumbent, long-time Rota Sen. Paul A. Manglona, who is an independent, on Nov. 3.

The DFEMS commissioner said he will share his platforms with the public once the Commonwealth Election Commission has certified his candidacy.

It was earlier reported that Mendiola is running as an independent. Mendiola clarified that he is a GOP member and will join other Republican candidates who will file their candidacies at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe next week.

A representative of Mendiola submitted the petition for his candidacy last Friday.

So far, only five persons have filed their candidacies.

Radio talk show host Glenn Hocog Manglona is running as an independent for a seat in the House of Representatives Precinct 1, while Fish and Wildlife officer Jim Michael Atalig Atalig is seeking a seat in the Rota Municipal Council.

Rota Municipal Council chief of staff Lorita Mesngon Manglona, who is eyeing a seat in the Rota Municipal Council, was the first one to file candidacy for this year's election.

Retired U.S. Navy Vincent Raymond Seman Aldan also filed his candidacy as an independent for a House Precinct 1 seat, making him the first one on Saipan to file his candidacy

for this year's election. The CEC has been accepting the filing of petitions

and candidacies since July 6. Aug. 5 is the deadline to sub-

mit nominating petition and candidacy.

The position for the U.S. delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives and 34 other

government positions, excluding three from the Judiciary for retention, are up for grabs in the coming general elections on Nov. 3. (Ferdie de la Torre)

VOX POPULI

Some back-to-school musings

By CHEVY ALIPIO

alipiochevykate@gmail.com REPORTER

With school year 2020-2021 just around the corner, Saipan Tribune talked to a number of students about going back to school even as there is still no vaccine for COVID-19.

"Education is important but so is our health. Right now, online classes are a much better and safer option for us than face to face. We are still going through a pandemic and not everyone feels comfortable wearing a face mask, especially for eight hours a day."

-Erin Agulto, Northern Marianas College

"I actually want a face-to-face class because I learn better that way, especially if it's a subject I struggle with. ... I feel somewhat concerned, [though], about how we will do social distancing in a small classroom that has about 25-30 students, but I'm sure the school year will be great as long as we keep our distance, wear a mask, and follow other rules."

-Sheena Varias, Northern **Marianas College**

"Online classes will be better for us students but it is going to be challenging to learn with a lot of distractions around the house. Face-to-face learning is always the best way to learn, but it is still dangerous to meet up because we don't have a vaccine yet for the virus. Teachers, faculty members, and students will have a challenging school year."

—Jiro Montenejo, Marianas **High School**

"I'm relieved that we at least have the opportunity to talk and ask our teachers in person at least once a week. Hopefully our teachers will be able to find a way to help us fully understand what they are teaching. Since lately most of our CO-

VID-19 cases have been from incoming travelers, it is okay to start classes once again."

—Fiona Bucalig, **Carmel School**

"I do feel worried...because a big change will come with our learning environment. As a student, I always know that the best way to learn is to be there physically. I took online classes before but it doesn't help me gain knowledge the way a regular teaching environment is. But as long as we are tested and do the safety protocols, it will most likely not affect us in so many ways."

-Xylene Apostol, Marianas **High School**

16 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

As virus aid talks stalemate, Trump scorns help for cities

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump on Wednesday dismissed Democratic demands for aid to cashstrapped cities in a new coronavirus relief package and lashed out at Republican allies as talks stalemated over assistance for millions of Americans. Another lawmaker tested positive for the virus.

Republicans, beset by delays and infighting, signaled a willingness to swiftly approve a modest package to revamp a \$600 weekly unemployment benefit that's running out. But House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., roundly rejected that approach as meager, all but forcing Republicans back to the negotiating table. Without action, the aid expires Friday.

We're nowhere close to the deal," said White House chief of staff Mark Meadows. He said they're "miles apart."

Stark differences remain between the \$3 trillion proposal from Democrats and \$1 trillion counter from Republicans, a standoff that is testing Trump and Congress ahead of the November election and putting aid for communities nationwide at risk.

Pelosi said the best way to re-

open schools and the economy is to defeat the virus, and that can't be done with the "skinny" bill Republicans are rushing to cobble together. "They still don't get it," Pelosi said.

The virus toll continued to mount in the U.S., with 4.4 million confirmed cases and deaths passing 150,000. Outspoken Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Texas, who often objects to mask-wearing, became the latest lawmaker at the Capitol to test positive for the virus.

Money for states and cites is a crucial dividing line as local governments plead for help to shore up budgets and prevent deeper layoffs as they incur CO-VID-19 costs and lost tax revenue in shutdown economies.

Trump complained about sending "big bailout money" to the nation's cities, whose mayors he often criticizes.

"It's a shame to reward badly run radical left Democrats with all of this money they're looking for," he said at the White House.

Democrats proposed nearly \$1 trillion for the local governments, but Trump and Republicans are resisting sending the states and cities more cash.

Instead, the GOP offers states flexibility to use \$150 billion previously allotted for the virus on other needs. At one point this year, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said states could just declare bankruptcy.

Governors and mayors who have been urging Congress to help warned that inaction would hit hard.

"If Congress fails to dedicate financial assistance to state and local governments, it will force deep cuts to the very programs workers and families need to get back on their feet," said Tara Lee, spokeswoman for Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, a Democrat.

Most states have built up reserves since the Great Recession, but the pandemic stopped swaths of the economy in March.

Municipal cutbacks and layoffs began. By June, about 1.5 million fewer people were working for governments in the U.S. compared with February, according federal data. More than half the government layoffs have been in education, a sector facing daunting costs as schools prepare to reopen to students.

Last month, Moody's Analytics said states were facing a cumulative budget gap of \$312 billion over the next two years and local governments would need nearly \$200 billion more. Some estimates have calculated the budget

gaps as even bigger.

"These are not fancy actions," said Democrat Nan Whaley, the mayor of Dayton, Ohio, and vice president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. "These are actions around emergency medical providers.

fire, police, services the president claims he values."

It's clear that Democrats are trying to push an advantage in the negotiations because Republicans are so deeply divided over the prospect of big government spending.

Fed sees dim economic outlook as virus squeezes economy

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell warned Wednesday that the viral epidemic is endangering the modest economic recovery that followed a collapse in hiring and spending this spring. As a result, he said, the Fed plans to keep interest rates pinned near zero well into the future.

That faltering economy, pressured by a resurgence of the virus, has heightened the need for Congress to continue providing significant financial aid, Powell said. Members of the House and Senate are negotiating a new package but are nowhere near agreement. Senate Republicans and the White House are proposing a plan that would provide less help for unemployed Americans than they

are now receiving.

Speaking at a virtual news conference after a two-day Fed meeting ended, Powell said the economy had rebounded after nearly all states lifted their broad business shutdown measures in May. But since then, he noted, as new confirmed cases have soared, measures of spending and hiring have slipped or plateaued at low levels.

"Now that the cases have spiked again, the early data ... suggest that there is a slower pace of growth at least for now," he said. "We don't know how deep or for how long it will be."

The economic stumble, amid the worsened viral outbreak, underscores the connection between the virus and the economy's ability to sus-

tain any recovery, the chairman said. This point was also highlighted in the Fed's statement, which added a new sentence: "The path of the economy will depend significantly on the course of the virus."

That observation was an acknowledgement that uncertainty about when the health crisis might be solved has complicated the Fed's ability to set interest rate policy.

It's also a point that Powell has made, in one way or another, for months as most states have succeeded only fitfully in controlling the virus and the ability of businesses to stay open. And it suggested that Powell and the Fed envision a prolonged recovery that will depend in large part on how well the U.S. can contain the pandemic.



Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting

Thursday, Aug 6, 2020 I 5:00 PM Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center Building Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp



AGENDA

Preliminary Matters

- 2. Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- 4. Adoption of 07/23/2020 Zoning Board Meeting minutes
- 5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

Public Hearings

- 1. Conditional Use Application #2020-1809: Viray Enterprises, Inc. dba A's Car Air Conditioning Repair & Parts Sales proposes to occupy an existing building structure for Gas Station, Light Repair Use. This use is classified as "Gas Station, Light Repair Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot E.A. 693-2 in China Town village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

 2. Conditional Use Application #2020-1728: Ha'num Lina'la Assembly proposes to occupy an existing building
- structure to operate a church. This use is classified as "Church or Place of Worship Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot 022 B 44 in Tanapag village. This area is zoned as Village Residential.
- as Vinige resolution.

 3. Conditional Use Application #2020-1930: Guangdong Development CO., Ltd. proposes to construct & operate a Block Plant manufacturing & processing facility. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot 047 | 12 and 047 | 07 in As
- Gonno village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

 4. Conditional Use Application #2020-1942: Huang Shun Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing building structure for Manufacturing & Processing. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot E.A. No. 121 "C" in Susupe village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.
- 5. Conditional Use Application #2020-1912: Fritz Pacific Building is proposing to renovate & occupy an existing building structure for its Office. This use is classified as "Office Uses" and is permitted in the district as a

Communication

- 1. Legal Opinion Authority to File Applications
- Letter from Senator Sixto Igisomar HLB 21-42 & Zoning Office Response

- 2. Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Properties Maintenance Act of 2018 Regulations
- **Executive (Closed) Session**

- 1. Zoning Administrator
- 2. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)
- G. Misce||aneous 1. Other Matters
 - 2. Announcements
- 3. Next Meeting
- Adjournment

In an effort to provide public access to this meeting during this pandemic, the Commonwealth Zoning Board will also air this

Zoom Video Communications

https://zoom.us/j/6853007492?pwd=Q0daYINPMDdXdFIQRTQ4UkhFRjViUT09Meeting Link:

685 300 7492 Meeting Code:

Password:

This meeting will also be aired on the Office of the Governor's Facebook page.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS **CUC-RFP-20-007**

Archaeological Services forS19-069 Construction of Afetna Sewer Collection Upgrade

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from Archaeologists or firms that meet the U.S. Department of Interior qualifications (36CFR61) to create a work plan, to prepare information, data and documentation needed to conduct Section 106 Review of the National Historic Preservation Act for FY19 for the construction of a new sewerline in Afetna Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval of the USEPA.

The existing Afetna sewer system was privately built and poorly installed due to excessive buildup of the Garment Industry. The project aims to replace the old system with approximately 5000 linear feet of new gravity sewer main with new sewer laterals and the installation of sewer manholes.

The scope of Archaeological Services will include, but not be limited to:

- 1. Conducting the necessary research and fieldwork that represents a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties, to include archaeological resources, as set out in the regulations 36 CFR § 800.4(b)(1):
- Background research design and work plan; Archival background information; Sample field investigation, and field survey;
- d. Past planning, research and studies;
 e. The magnitude and nature of the undertaking:
- The degree of federal involvement:
- The nature and extent of potential effects on historic properties within the APE; The likely nature, identification and location of historic properties within the APE; and,
- Create a mitigation plan to resolve adverse effects.
- 2. Preparation of the necessary reports and letters for submittal to various federal and local resource agencies to address environmental requirements of Section 106 to completely secure concurrence for the projects ready for construction

- a. 2 copies of the final report for review and approval to HPO and CUC, and
 b. Map showing the location of identified historic properties which would assist with alignment of the sewerline to avoid such properties.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of the proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-20-007: Archaeological Services for S-19-069 Construction of Afetna Sewer Collection Upgrade" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than August 14, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

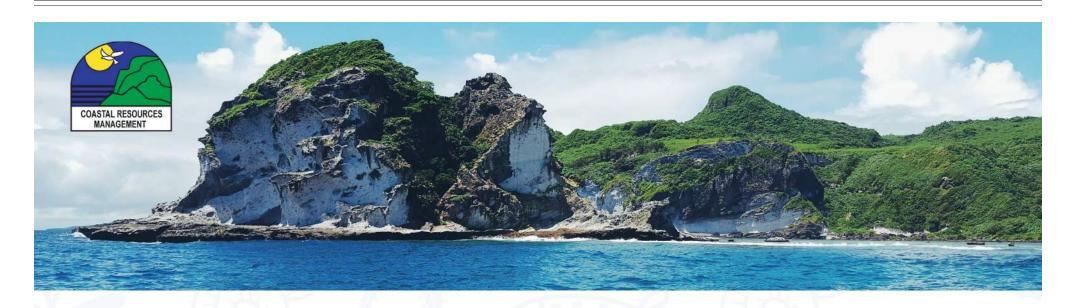
Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the RFP requirements in the course of proposer's preparation of the RFP under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the RFP under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 27, 2020 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer, via email address nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said RFP, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 **17** SAIPAN TRIBUNE



MANGROVES of the Marianas

Mangroves are vital ecosystems throughout the tropical world, and the Marianas is no exception. Saipan is home to four species of mangroves, and of these the most recognizable is Bruquiera gymnorrhiza or "oriental mangrove". Mangroves provide many critical ecosystem services, including shoreline protection from storms, sediment accretion, water filtration, and creating nursery habitat for commercially important fisheries species. Mangroves are also habitat for many of CNMI's threatened or endangered species, including golden white-eye (Cleptornis marchei) and the Marianas fruit dove (Ptilinopus roseicapilla).

Last Thursday, July 16th, the Division of Coastal Resources Management's 2020 Internship Cohort had the opportunity to learn about the CNMI's coastal wetlands. Zachary Williams, Watershed Coordinator, and Ilan Bubb, Coral Fellow, led a nature walk for the DCRM interns along the coastline of American Memorial Park (AMP). They learned how to identify native plant species, invasive plant species, and even saw some of our endangered wildlife species, such as the Mariana Common Moorhen (Gallinula chloropus guami). You can see Saipan's diverse mangrove ecosystems all along AMP through Smiling Cove Marina. These coastal wetlands are situated within the Garapan/ West Takpochao Watershed, one of CNMI's priority watersheds.

To learn more about the CNMI's coastal wetlands, watershed management, or other ongoing programs and projects, visit our website at www.dcrm.gov.mp or contact DCRM at outreach@dcrm.gov.mp!





Oriental mangrove (Bruguiera gymnorrhiza)



Mariana moorhen (Gallinula chloropus guami)



llan Bubb, Coastal Fellow, shows some of the invertebrate species found within AMP.



Golden white-eye (Cleptornis marchei)



Zak Williams, Watershed Coordinator, shows a swimmer crab found within AMP.



Land crab (Cardisoma carnifo



Hermit crab (Coenobita rugosus)



















18 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

Misinformation on coronavirus is proving highly contagious

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)— As the world races to find a vaccine and a treatment for COVID-19, there is seemingly no antidote in sight for the burgeoning outbreak of coronavirus conspiracy theories, hoaxes, anti-mask myths and sham cures.

The phenomenon, unfolding largely on social media, escalated this week when President Donald Trump retweeted a false video about

APPLICANT

an anti-malaria drug being a cure for the virus and it was revealed that Russian intelligence is spreading disinformation about the crisis through English-language websites.

Experts worry the torrent of bad information is dangerously undermining efforts to slow the virus, whose death toll in the U.S. hit 150,000 Wednesday, by far the highest in the world, according to the tally kept by Johns Hopkins Uni-

DATE APPLICATION

versity. Over a half-million people have died in the rest of the world.

Hard-hit Florida reported 216 deaths, breaking the single-day record it set a day earlier. Texas confirmed 313 additional deaths, pushing its total to 6,190, while South Carolina's death toll passed 1,500 this week, more than doubling over the past month. In Georgia, hospitalizations have more than

LOCATION

doubled since July 1.

"It is a real challenge in terms of trying to get the message to the public about what they can really do to protect themselves and what the facts are behind the problem," said Michael Osterholm, head of the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy.

He said the fear is that "people are putting themselves in harm's way because they don't

believe the virus is something they have to deal with."

Rather than fade away in the face of new evidence, the claims have flourished, fed by mixed messages from officials, transmitted by social media, amplified by leaders like Trump and mutating when confronted with contradictory facts.

"You don't need masks. There is a cure," Dr. Stella Immanuel promised in a video that promoted hydroxychloroquine. "You don't need people to be locked down."

The truth: Federal regulators last month revoked their authorization of the drug as an emergency treatment amid growing evidence it doesn't work and can have deadly side effects. Even if it were effective, it wouldn't negate the need for masks and other measures to contain the outbreak.

None of that stopped Trump, who has repeatedly praised the drug, from retweeting the video. Twitter and Facebook began removing the video Monday for violating policies on COVID-19 misinformation, but it had already been seen more than 20 million times.

Many of the claims in Immanuel's video are widely disputed by medical experts. She has made even more bizarre pronouncements in the past, saying that cysts, fibroids and some other conditions can be caused by having sex with demons, that McDonald's and Pokemon promote witchcraft, that alien DNA is used in medical treatments, and that half-human "reptilians" work in the government.



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315 www.dcrm.gov.mp



SUTATE

PPLICATION

As of July 31, 2020

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICATION PROJECT

	APPLICANT	RECEIVED	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1.	B & J Corporation dba Dive Y2K	06/08/2020 SLR-2018-X-075-R3	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites in Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
2.	Seahorse, Inc. Saipan dba Seahorse Tour	06/26/2020 SLR-2018-X-090-R3	Personal Watercraft, Parasailing, & Banana Boat	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
3.	Saipan Aqua World, Inc. dba Aqua Dive Tour	06/26/2020 SLR-2018-X-094-R3	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction & Seawalker Operation	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
4.	Tao Tao Marianas Inc. dba Tao Tao Marine Sports	06/29/2020 SLR-2018-X-093-R3	Parasailing	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
5.	Tao Tao Marianas Inc. dba Tao Tao Marine Sports	06/29/2020 SLR-2018-X-091-R3	Banana Boat	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
6.	Tao Tao Marianas Inc. dba Tao Tao Marine Sports	06/29/2020 SLR-2018-X-092-R3	Personal Watercraft	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
7.	Kura-Ling Dive Co. dba Kura-Ling Dive	06/29/2020 STRLR-2018-X-095-R3	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan, Tinian, & Rota	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
8.	J & K Marine Sports, Inc. dba J & K Marine Sports	06/30/2020 SLR-2018-X-069-R3	Banana Boat, Snorkeling, & Wakeboard	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/20/2020
9.	J & K Marine Sports, Inc. dba J & K Marine Sports	06/30/2020 SLR-2018-X-102-R3	Personal Watercraft with Accessory Use (Jetovator)	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/20/2020
10.	Bridge Investment Group, LLC.	07/01/2020 TPI-2020-X-011	Installation of 8" Water Line	San Jose, Tinian	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 07/23/2020
11.	John Paul Palacios Sablan, 21st House of Representatives	07/01/2020 SSm-2020-X-052	Six Beach Pala Palas	Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Withdrawn
12.	Mark Arnold L. Santos dba Mac's Marine	07/06/2020 SLR-2018-X-112-R3	Banana Boat, Parasailing, & Seawalker Operation	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
13.	Auto Marine, Inc.	07/06/2020 SLR-2018-X-113-R3	Banana Boat, Parasailing, & Seawalker Operation	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/27/2020
14.	Green Flash, L.L.C.	07/07/2020 SLR-2020-X-047	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction	Grotto, Lau Lau Bay, Obyan Beach, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/23/2020
15.	JB Corporation dba Saipan Fresh Adventure	07/08/2020 SLR-2020-X-054	Snorkeling Tour Operation	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 07/23/2020
16.	Anh Tuan Nguyen & Veronica Castro Nguyen	07/10/2020 SW-2020-X-055	Single Story 3-Bedroom Residential Concrete House	Capitol Hill, Saipan	Wetland	Approved 07/16/2020
17.	Office of the Mayor of Saipan	07/13/2020 SCH-2020-X-056	Demolition & Construction of New Structures	Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Shoreline, Coastal Hazard	Approved 07/15/2020
18.	Eleanor B. Alinas dba Max's Saipan Restaurant	07/13/2020 SSCH-2020-X-057	Two Story Restaurant	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved 07/17/2020
19.	Soledad Francesca B. Camacho & Dr. Ahmad Al-Alou	07/15/2020 SS-2020-X-058	Two Storey Commercial Building with Penthouse	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Reviev
20.	Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Division of Coastal Resources Management	07/16/2020 SSm-2020-X-059	Construction of Signage	Tank Beach, Grotto Drive, Ladder Beach Drive, Obyan Beach Drive, Sugar Dock, Abangbang Place, Laulau Bay Dive, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 07/28/2020
21.	Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	07/23/2020 SW-2020-X-060	W-6 Sewer Line Lift Station	Chalan Kiya, Saipan Elimination	Wetland	Under Reviev
22.	Micronesia Resort Inc. dba Kensington Hotel Saipan	07/24/2020 SSm-2020-X-061	Replacement of Aqua Park	San Roque, Saipan Inflatables	Shoreline	Under Reviev
23.	Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	07/27/2020 SPIm-2020-X-062	Archaeological Monitoring & Data Recovery	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 07/29/2020
24.	Office of the Vice Speaker, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI Honorable Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	07/28/2020 SSm-2020-X-063	Construction of One Semi-Concrete Beach Pala-Pala Structures	Laolao Beach Area, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 07/30/2020
25.	Office of Representative John Paul Palacios Sablan, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI	07/28/2020 SSm-2020-X-052	Construction of Four Semi-Concrete Beach Pala-Pala Structures	Susupe-Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 07/30/2020

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Outrage after NYPD hustles protester into unmarked van

NEW YORK (AP) —The New York Police Department's use of plainclothes officers and an unmarked minivan to haul away a vandalism suspect during a protest Tuesday created confusion and drew outrage from people who compared it to covert tactics used recently by federal agents in Portland, Oregon.

Bystander videos 18-year-old Nikki Stone's arrest spread quickly on social media, along with comments such as "nypd is out here KIDNAPPING protesters off of the street." Another tweet compared the police to an African terrorist group, saying: "When Boko Haram does this there is international outrage. NYPD, it's just business as usual."

Acknowledging the video, the NYPD issued a statement Tuesday night explaining that Stone was picked up by a police warrant squad for allegedly damaging several surveillance cameras near City Hall, where activists camped out for a month before riot police forced them out last week. On Wednesday, the department posted video it said showed Stone vandalizing cameras with paint and a broom stick.

The warrant squad typically "uses unmarked vehicles to effectively locate wanted suspects," the department said. Police also claimed the officers were peppered with rocks and bottles as they took Stone into custody, but witnesses said that wasn't the case.

Videos of Tuesday's arrest at a 24-hour demonstration in Manhattan showed officers in T-shirts and shorts grabbing Stone off a skateboard, taking her to the ground and pushing her into the minivan as other protesters scream about her treatment and officers shout at people to get back.

Uniformed bike cops are seen on the videos forming a perimeter and standing guard as the plainclothes officers their department-issued guns and stun guns visible on their holsters —work around the vehicle. The clips were shared thousands of times, including by politicians and cable news commentators.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said Wednesday he was concerned with the optics of police hustling a person into a minivan during the middle of a protest march, given the recent furor over federal agents using unmarked vehicles to scoop up protesters in Portland. He said he would discuss the matter with Police Commissioner Dermot Shea, himself a target of protesters making noise and shining lights early Wednesday outside a home address listed for him.

"That was not the time and place to effectuate that arrest," de Blasio said.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo echoed those concerns, saying he initially thought the arresting officers were federal agents because of the similarity to what happened in Portland. He said using such surreptitious tactics, in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and calls for police reform, only erodes public trust.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 **19**



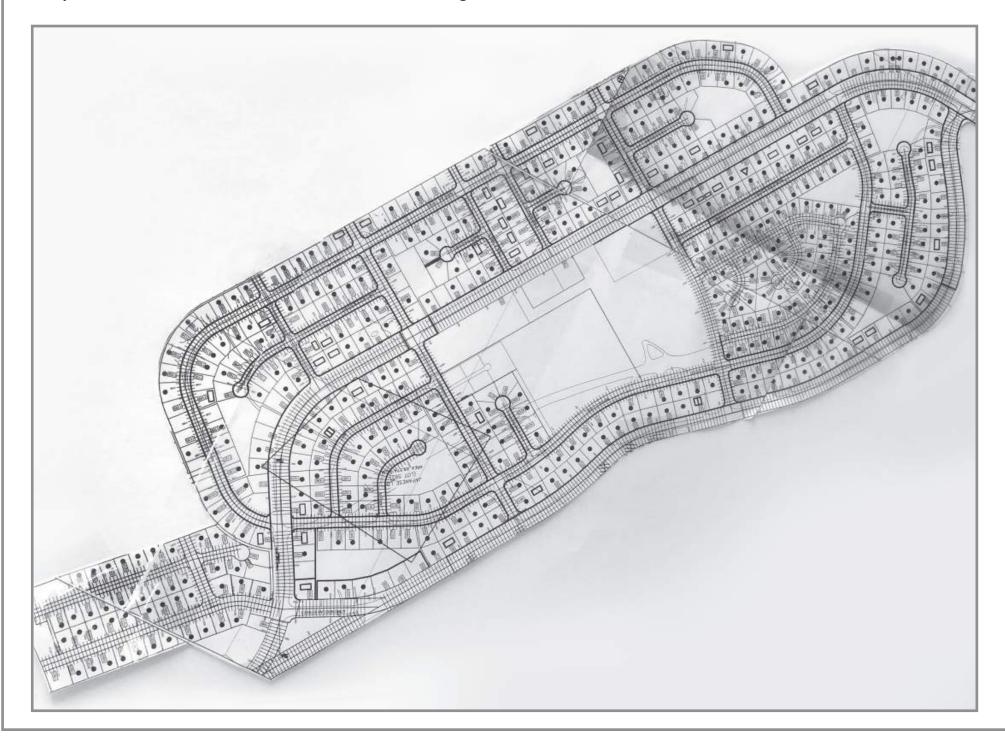
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF SAIPAN PUBLIC NOTICE

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan will start conducting onsite visits to homes and commercial and non-commercial buildings in the Koblerville homestead subdivision and immediate surrounding subdivisions beginning August 3, 2020, for the purpose of delivering in person to each homeowner and owner of a commercial or non-commercial building their property's designated street address number. The map of the initial project area of Koblerville homestead subdivision, former MIHA turnkey subdivision, and Tottotville subdivision is shown below.

Mayor David M. Apatang respectfully requests the support and understanding of the homeowners and owners of buildings in the project area to welcome his office's street addressing staff and his office's consultant staff who will be visiting their homes and buildings beginning August 3, 2020.

The next project area will be announced at least two weeks before the initial project (as shown on the map below) is completed.

Mayor Apatang appreciates your support and understanding as his office endeavors to carry out the addressing project so that every home and commercial and non-commercial building will be numbered.



20 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ASIAN BRIEFS

US commander affirms US support for Japan on China dispute

TOKYO (AP)—The United States supports Japan's protests over Chinese ships venturing into the economic waters near disputed East China Sea islands, the commander of the U.S. Forces in Japan said Wednesday. "The United States is 100% absolutely steadfast in its commitment to help the government of Japan with the situation in Senkaku," Lt. Gen. Kevin Schneider said of the group of islands, which are controlled by Japan. China also claims the islands, which it calls Diaoyu. "That's 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is no deviation in that regard," Schneider told reporters. Japan has long protested the repeated presence of Chinese coast guard vessels in the waters. Schneider also noted such incursions had increased recently.

4 arrested under new Hong Kong security law for online posts

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong police have signaled their intent to enforce a new Chinese national security law strictly, arresting four youths Wednesday on suspicion of inciting secession through social media posts. Three males and one female, aged 16 to 21, were detained, a police official said at an 11 p.m. news conference. All are believed to be students. "Our investigation showed that a group has recently announced on social media that they have set up an organization for Hong Kong independence," said Li Kwai-wah, senior superintendent of a newly formed unit to enforce the security law. The 1-month-old law

has chilled pro-democracy protesting as activists along with academics and others wonder if their activities could be targeted.

Flooding, mudslides hit northern Japan after heavy rainfall

TOKYO (AP)—Heavy rain poured over northern Japan on Wednesday, flooding residential areas and prompting warnings of mudslides. The Mogami River in Yamagata prefecture flooded four areas following an overnight downpour, leaving several towns inundated, chief government spokesman Yoshihide Suga said. Another river overflowed its banks in nearby Akita prefecture, he said. Suga told reporters no deaths have been confirmed. But he warned people should evacuate from risky areas. A mudslide has isolated an area with more than 500 people, he added.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Fritz Pacific Building

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Fritz Pacific Building is proposing to renovate & occupy an existing building structure for its Office. This use is classified as "Office Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot 003 H 03 in Susupe village. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: August 06, 2020

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center Building Susupe, Saipan

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 5, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Treasurer

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Guangdong Development Co., Ltd.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Guangdong Development Co. Ltd. is proposing to construct & operate a Block Plant manufacturing & processing facility. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot 047 I 12 and 047 I 07 in As Gonno village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial

A public hearing will be held on:

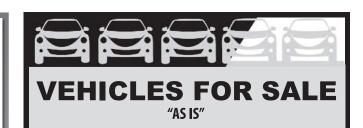
Date: August 06, 2020 Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose **Center Building Susupe, Saipan**

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 5, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Treasurer



2018 **TOYOTA COROLLA**

Last day for sale is August 14, 2020 at 3:00pm. For more information, please call Loans Department at 235-6294. The Bank reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.



や Bank of Saipan

Marianas Pride

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Huang Shun Corporation

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Huang Shun Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing building structure for Manufacturing & Processing. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot E.A. No. 121 "C" in Susupe village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: August 06, 2020

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose **Center Building Susupe, Saipan**

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 5, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2) CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Rahauta Treasurer

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Hå'num Lina'la Assembly

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Hå'num Lina'la Assembly is proposing to occupy an existing building structure to operate a church. This use is classified as "Church or Place of Worship Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot 022 B 44 in Tanapag village. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: August 06, 2020 Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center Building Susupe, Saipan

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 5, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Treasurer

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Viray Enterprises, Inc. dba A's Car Air-conditioning Repair & Parts Sale

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Viray Enterprises, Inc. dba A's Car Air-conditioning Repair & Parts Sale is proposing to occupy an existing building structure for Gas Station, Light Repair Use. This use is classified as "Gas Station, Light Repair Uses" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot E.A. 693-2 in China Town village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: August 06, 2020 Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose **Center Building Susupe, Saipan**

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 5, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Treasurer

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 **21** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Iran launches underground ballistic missiles during exercise

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's Revolutionary paramilitary Guard launched underground ballistic missiles Wednesday as part of an exercise involving a mock-up American aircraft carrier in the Strait of Hormuz, highlighting its network of subterranean missile sites. Although state television documentaries have focused on operations at underground bases, all have avoided showing geographic details revealing their locations. Wednesday's launch from what appears to be central Iran's desert plateau may have changed that amid heightened tensions between Tehran and the U.S. over its tattered nuclear deal with world powers and as economic pressures grow. "We have carried out the launch of ballistic missiles from the depths of the earth for the first time," Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh, commander of the Guard's aerospace division, told state TV. "That means without utilizing conventional launchpads, the buried missiles suddenly rip out of the earth and hit their targets precisely." Drone footage captured by the Guard showed two missiles blasting out from covered positions in the desert early Wednesday morning, with debris flying up into the air in their wake. The Guard did not identify the location of the launch, nor the missiles in-

Brazil's Bolsonaro keeps mum at first event since recovery

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP)— Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on Wednesday attended his first public event since recovering from COVID-19, though he declined to speak. Brazil's president is typically last to address at the presiden-

tial palace, but Bolsonaro only

watched the event recognizing women who work in rural areas around Latin America and left the room once it ended. He wore a mask throughout the event. Bolsonaro consistently downplayed the coronavirus' severity during the pandemic, and he often joined supporters and took outings from the presidential residence, sometimes without a mask. On July 7,

he told reporters he had tested positive for COVID-19, then spent more than two weeks confined to the presidential residence while participating in meetings by video call.

Guatemala burying dozens of unidentified COVID-19 dead

GUATEMALA CITY

(AP)—Guatemalan hospitals say they have had to bury dozens of COVID-19 victims who have never been identified, and one hospital is creating archives in hopes that once the pandemic passes, their relatives will come looking for them. Workers at one of the country's largest public hospitals have started photographing patients who arrive alone and too ill to give their personal details. Those who die unidentified are placed in body bags with transparent windows

over the faces in case relatives finally arrive. Protocols that call for rapidly burying the dead during a pandemic only make the situation more difficult, officials say. The government has reported more than 47,000 confirmed infections and more 1,800 deaths nationwide. The first of 63 unidentified dead at the San Juan de Dios Hospital. one of the capital's largest, died April 25.



Employment Opportunities

Greenskeeper Supervisor: Must have 3 to 5 years-experience at a golf course with supervisory experience. You must be knowledgeable in maintaining greens, also dependable and able to motivate a crew. Also, scheduling and issuing daily assignments. Salary negotiated with experience.

Accounting Clerk also needed.

These positions include health and vacation benefits and increase after a 90-day probationary period. US citizens only.

To apply: Drop off résumé at the accounting office of Saipan Vegas Resort (next to McDonald's Middle Rd) Office located at the left side of property (white house with blue trim).

BE TO CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sales Manager (Saipan, MP)

Maintain responsibility for performance of all sales activities within an assigned territory; Establish and strategically build a solid customer base; Analyze the sales process in an effort to refine and improve its success and establish sales reporting framework; Achieve the highest levels of customer satisfaction with all customer interaction. Req: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration; Must have taken a course of "Strategic Management" and "Business Finance". Send Resume & Transcript to BE TO CORPORATION. ATTN: Young Ki LEE, P.O.BOX 7670 SVRB Saipan, MP 96950.

Oliver M. Manglona (F0489)

Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 7862 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 285-3750 | Fax. (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner Veronica

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER

Civil Action No. 20-0239 NOTICE OF HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATRIX; and OF THE ESTATE OF

ANA BENAVENTE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Judge: Joseph N. Camacho. Date:August 13, 2020 Time:10:00 a.m. Courtroom: Supreme Court Courtroom

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ANA BENAVENTE MANIBUS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner Veronica NOTICE IN HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner Veronica Inocencia Manibusan Palacio, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Ana Benavente Manibusan, Decedent. The attorney for Petitioner is Oliver Manalang Manglona, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Por 2005 CIRCLE Science MD 0600

Box 7862 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Veronica Inocencia Manibusan Palacios, as Petitioner. Veronica Inocencia ManiBusan Palacios, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on August 13, 2020 at 10:00a am, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing, any and all persons, creditors, or entities having daims against the Decedent or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Skty (60) days of the fest publication or the claims() will be barred A

to the time it during with the deriven of the daily of the first publication, or the dailings) will be barred. A copy of your daim should also be sent to **OLIVER M.**MANGIONA, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2020.

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

P.O. BOX 500861 CK SAIPAN, MP 96950

info@mymarianas.com www.mymarianas.com

The Marianas

REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE



Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 5th, 2020 at 9a.m. in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Oath of Office
- 3. Roll Call
- 4. Election of Officers
 - a. Board Committees
- 5. Adoption of Agenda
- 6. Adoption of Minutes a. Regular Board Meeting - June 17, 2020

2) Public Comments

3) Committee Reports

- 1. Finance Committee
- a. Fund Status Report

4) Old Business

- 1. Notice of Adoption Expenditure Authority
- 2. MVA Building Status
- **Executive Session**
- 6) Miscellaneous/Announcements
- 7) Adjournment

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

volved.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-20

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **POWER PLANT BUILDING ROOFING** SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for the Saipan International Airport Power Plant Building Roofing System Replacement. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC §40-50-225(a)).

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative). Title 40, including chapter 40–50–225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The RFP Package is available beginning July 24, 2020, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Power Plant Building Roofing Systems Replacement (RFP-006-20). One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. Local Time, August 13, 2020, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the bes

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO **Executive Director**



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Francisco C. Ada/Saipan international airport AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER RENOVATIONS Project No. CPA-SA-004-17

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Air Traffic Control Tower Renovations, No. CPA-SA-004-17, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the RFQ package.

Questions regarding this RFQ shall be addressed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager and delivered to the CPA Administration office, faxed to (670) 234-5962, or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Wednesday, July 29, 2020,

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications. Qualification statements shall be submitted by no later than <u>5:00 p.m., MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020</u> (CHST) to the office of the Executive Director. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Commonwealth Ports Authority P.O. Box 501055 Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO **Executive Director**

Date: July 14, 2020

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2020

Opening date: July 22, 2020

Closing date: August 11, 2020

Positions: (1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office. 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday 8:00 A,M, to 5:00 P,M,, except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna,tenorio@cpa,gov.mp or by phone at

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

> CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO **Executive Director**

22 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Off The Wall

Farmer returns prosthetic leg that skydiver lost during jump

WEST ADDISON, Vt. (AP)—A Vermont skydiver who lost his prosthetic leg during a jump has it back, thanks to a farmer who kept an eye out for it and spotted it in a soybean field.

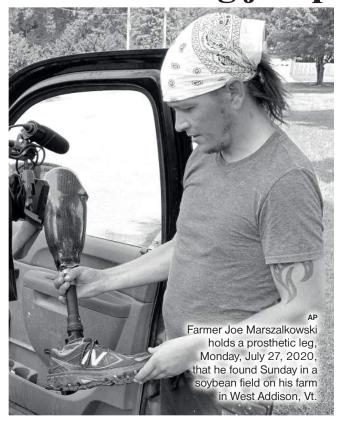
Double amputee Chris Marckres, of Hyde Park, went for a jump Saturday at Vermont Skydiving Adventures in West Addison and lost one of his prosthetic legs after leaping from the plane.

"I think my adrenaline was so high and I was just so excited, I didn't realize I had lost it," Marckres told NECN and NBC10 Boston.

Marckres, who was harnessed to an instructor, landed safely.

He then put out the word on social media that he'd lost his leg. Farmer Joe Marszalkowski saw the post before finding the prosthetic on Sunday in a soybean field. Beyond a few scratches, it was undamaged.

"You've always got to keep an eye out," said Marszalkowski, who compared the discovery to a needle in a haystack. He said he was grateful



he found the leg without running it over with a machine during the fall harvest.

"Or, God forbid, the combine sucked it up—it would've destroyed it," Marszalkowski said.

Marckres said losing his leg turned into a positive experience.

"We kind of take for granted sometimes how many truly good people there still are in the world," he said.

Friends share Powerball jackpot win

MENOMONIE, W

(AP)—A western Wisconsin man will share his millions in lottery winnings with a long-time friend because of a promise they made to each other nearly three decades ago.

Friends Tom Cook and Joseph Feeney shook hands in 1992 and promised that if either one of them ever won the Powerball jackpot, they would split the money.

That promise came to frui-

tion last month when Cook bought the winning ticket for a \$22 million jackpot at Synergy Coop in Menomonie.

When Cook called to give his friend the good news, Feeney couldn't quite believe it.

"He called me, and I said, 'are you jerking my bobber?"" said Feeney, an avid fisherman.

Cook retired after hitting the jackpot while Feeney was already retired. Neither has any extravagant plans for the winnings but are looking forward to enjoying more family time. "We can pursue what we feel

of a better way to retire," Cook said. The pair said they're looking forward to some traveling.

The men chose the cash option of about \$16.7 million.

comfortable with. I can't think

The men chose the cash option of about \$16.7 million, leaving each with nearly \$5.7 million after taxes are paid.

The odds of winning the Powerball jackpot are 1 in about 292 million.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

US Marshals: 'Fugitive of week' found asleep on porch

LACONIA, N.H. (AP)—A "fugitive of the week" sought by the U.S. Marshals Service was found sleeping on a porch in New Hampshire, authorities said Wednesday. John Cathcart, 55, was sought on multiple arrest warrants issued from Belknap County, Deputy U.S. Marshal Jeffrey White said in a news release. The warrants included failing to appear on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and failing to appear on three outstanding narcotics charges. Cathart was in a segment Wednesday featured in local media and distributed to law enforcement officers statewide. Authorities said interviews led them to a porch in Laconia, where they

found Cathcart. He was arrested without incident. It wasn't immediately known if he had a lawyer who could speak on his behalf.

Long haul: Dog lost on South Carolina highway found in Miami

found in Miami
MIAMI (AP)—A pet dog that jumped out of a car window on a South Carolina highway has been found two weeks later, nearly 600 miles (966 kilometers) away in Miami, according to a relative of the owner. The dog named Belle escaped from the moving car near Charleston on July 15, according to Tim Whitfield, whose 90-year-old mother owns Belle. Whitfield put out a call for help on Facebook at the time and said that he bought the puppy for his mother

after her dog of 16 years recently died. She was "heartbroken" after hearing the dog was lost, Whitfield added. After nearly two weeks of searching, Whitfield learned over the weekend that a car of Florida residents grabbed Belle out of traffic after spotting the animal while traveling through Charleston to Miami, WCIV-TV reported Sunday. The rescuers said they saved Belle because they were afraid she was going to be hit by oncoming cars, the station reported. They then tracked down Whitfield through social media posts. Whitfield thanked all the people who helped share Belle's story in a message posted to Facebook on Sunday. "A great reminder that when all seems lost, hope must be the constant thought," he said.

Science & Technology

Mars mission poised for blastoff

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The summer's third and final mission to Mars—featuring NASA's most elaborate life-hunting rover—is on the verge of liftoff.

The rover Perseverance will follow China's roverorbiter combo and a United Arab Emirates orbiter, both launched last week. It will take the spacecraft seven months to reach Mars after traveling 300 million miles.

Once on the surface, Perseverance will scrounge for evidence of past microscopic life in an ancient lakebed, and gather the most promising rock samples for future pickup. NASA is teaming up with the European Space Agency to return the sam-

ples to Earth around 2031.

This unprecedented effort will involve multiple launches and spacecraft—and cost more than \$8 billion.

"We don't know if life existed there or not. But we do know that Mars at one point in its history was habitable," NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said on the eye of launch.

Trade, technology and security at risk in US-China feud

BEIJING (AP)—They have the largest economies in the world. They spend more than anyone else on their militaries. From hightech chips to control of the high seas, their interests are closely intertwined.

The ongoing sharp deterioration in U.S.-China ties poses risks to both countries and the rest of the world. In the latest escalation, a U.S. consulate in Chengdu in southwestern China shuttered Monday, ordered by China to close in retaliation

for the U.S. shutting down its consulate in Houston last week.

With the U.S. presidential campaign heating up, all bets are that relations with China will only get worse. A look at what's at stake:

TRADE

Both countries already have suffered heavy losses in a tariff war that erupted in 2018 over Beijing's technology ambitions and trade surplus. If talks on ending the dispute fail, the world could face downward pressure on trade at a time when the global economy is already reeling from the coronavirus pandemic.

The United States is China's biggest single-country export market, even after President Donald Trump imposed punitive tariffs on Chinese goods. And China is the No. 3 market for American exporters, as well as a huge market for goods and services produced in China by U.S. companies ranging from General Motors Co. to Burger King.

TECH Q&A: Proving who you are with multifactor authentication

Q: When a website requires me to change a password that I've forgotten, the website often says it will send me a message. The message supposedly will contain either instructions on how to make the change, or a code that I'm supposed to enter. But the message never arrives. My repair shop says it may be a "multifactor authentication problem." What should I do?

A: Multifactor authentication is a security measure that lets you prove to a website or online service that you are really who you claim to be. It reduces, but does not eliminate, the risk of someone impersonating you to gain access to your personal information.

For consumers, the most common form of this security technique is two-factor authentication. After you sign in to a website or service with your username and password, you are automatically sent a message via e-mail or text. Depending on the method used by that website or service, you verify your identity by either responding to the message or entering a code that the message contains.

But there are a few things that can go wrong:

- If your computer or phone is set to the wrong calendar date or time of day, the two-factor identification message may never arrive.
- If the website or ser-

By STEVE ALEXANDER

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.



vice has both your cellphone number (for texting) and your e-mail address, it may choose to send the ID message to you one way and not the other. Check both of them.

■ Sometimes an e-mail message that you want to receive is accidentally routed to your spam folder. Look there for any misdirected messages.

Q: I've been trying to upgrade my laptop from Windows 7 to Windows 10 using the process you described (see tinyurl.com/y3gqn-j5k). Everything works well until I'm asked for a "product key." When I enter the number from the bottom of my laptop, it's not accepted. What's wrong?

A: What you need is the Windows 7 "product key," a code that identifies your copy of Windows 7. It isn't listed on the bottom of your laptop; what you will find there is the PC's ID number.

Why do you need the product key? By entering that code, you are verifying to Microsoft that your copy of Windows 7 is legitimate, and that you are thus entitled

to upgrade to Windows 10.

The Windows product key usually can be found on a sticker that's attached to the PC owner's manual or, if you have a Windows 7 DVD disk, to the envelope holding the disk. In addition, the product key is stored on your PC in the Windows 7 registry, a database of computer settings.

If you need to find the product key in the registry, you can use one of several free "key finder" programs that work with Windows 7 (see tinyurl.com/ycr5acto). Check the "what we like" and "what we don't like" lists for each product before selecting one. It's best to avoid programs that try to download unrelated software in addition to the program you want. (Alternatively, you can sometimes decline to accept these extra programs during the download process.) After you complete the upgrade process, run the free version of the Malwarebytes security program to make sure you haven't accidentally downloaded anything harmful or annoying (see tinyurl. com/y3ju6oov).

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020 **23** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

Court says Judd can sue Weinstein for sexual harassment

LOS ANGELES (AP)— A federal appeals court on Wednesday restored a major part of Ashley Judd's lawsuit against Harvey Weinstein, finding that the producer had power over the actor which should make her able to sue under a California sexual harassment law.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found that Judd should be allowed to pursue both parts of her lawsuit against Weinstein. A lower court judge dismissed her sexual harassment allegations but left intact her claim of defamation.

Judd filed the lawsuit in 2018, alleging that in a meeting at a Beverly Hills hotel Weinstein in late 1996 or early

1997, the producer tried to coerce her to watch him shower and give him a massage, then smeared her in Hollywood as a "nightmare" to work with after she rejected him.



Judd's attorneys had sued Weinstein under a California law that prohibits harassment sexual by people, other than employers, with professional power, including teachers and landlords.

The court agreed that the law could apply to situations like the one Judd faced, when she was dealing with Weinstein but not working for him.

"Weinstein was uniquely

Kanye West's NJ ballot petition falls short, complaint says

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)— Kanye West's petition to appear on New Jersey's ballot as a presidential candidate fails to pass legal muster because signatures are incomplete, and in some cases appear written with very similar handwriting, according to a formal complaint filed with the state Wednesday.

Salmon, a registered Democrat, filed the objection with the state Division of Elections after reviewing the more than 1,300 signatures the rapper had submitted.

New Jersey requires presidential candidates to get 800 signatures to appear on the ballot, but Salmon said in an interview that he counted more than 600 that were in some way defective.

contain the valid signatures of 800 qualified voters and should have been rejected by the Division," Salmon wrote

number of signatures appear nearly identical, including lower-case i's dotted with a small circle. Some signatures lack complete addresses.

West's spokesperson directed questions to what appeared dress. A message seeking comment was sent to that address.

in the complaint. The petition shows that a

McConaughey writing book based on life-changing adventures

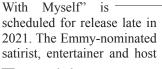
a tough-love Texas

home of rule breakers,

to revelatory journeys

to Australia, Peru, and

Mali, to his early days



said in a statement. Tracy Morgan, wife to divorce after 5 years of marriage

> Morgan and Wollover married after the former "Saturday Night Live" cast member recovered from a 2014 highway crash. One man was killed in

two friends seriously injured.

The crash happened when a Wal-Mart truck slammed into the back of a limo Morgan was riding in.

Morgan and Wollover have a 7-year-old daughter. The comedian also has three adult sons from a previous marriage.

Election law attorney Scott "Mr. West's petitions do not to be a campaign email ad-

NEW YORK (AP) —Oscar winner Matthew McConaughey didn't want to write an ordinary celebrity book.

"This is not a traditional memoir, or an advice book, but rather a playbook based on adventures in my life," McConaughey, 50, said in a statement about "Greenlights," which comes out Oct. 20. "Adventures that have been significant, enlightening, and funny, sometimes because they were meant to be but mostly because they

didn't try to be."

According to Crown, which announced the book Wednesday, the actor known for films "Dallas Buyers Club" and "Magic Mike" will draw upon a diary he McConaughey has kept for 35 years.

"He found not only stories, questions, truths, and affirmations, but also a reliable theme," Crown announced. "From growing up as an adventurous kid in



in Hollywood and meteoric rise to fame, McConaughey shares how his life experiences have instilled in

him the importance of competent values, the power of new experiences, and, as he puts it, 'either changing your reality or changing how you see it.""



"Moreover, given Weinstein's highly influential and 'unavoidable' presence in the film industry, the relationship was one that would have been difficult to terminate 'without tangible hardship' to Judd, whose livelihood as an actor depended on being cast for roles.

Judd's lawyers made it explicit when she filed the lawsuit that she was suing in part to broaden the use of the law to



protect against predarelationships in Hollywood, and praised the 9th Circuit decision Wednesday. "This is an impor-

tant victory not only for Ms. Judd but for all victims of sexual harassment in profesrelationships," Judd's

attorney Theodore Boutrous Jr. said in a statement. "The court correctly holds that California law forbids sexual harassment and retaliation by film producers and others in powerful positions, even outside the employment context, and we look forward to pursuing this claim against Mr Weinstein at trial."

An email seeking comment from Weinstein's attorney, Phyllis Kupferman, was not immediately returned. Kupferman said previously that Weinstein did not hurt Judd's career but promoted it, approving her for roles in two of his films.

The ruling comes two weeks after a judge in New York rejected a \$19 million settlement between Weinstein and many of the women suing him for sexual misconduct. Judd was not involved in the proposed agreement.

The 52-year-old star of "Kiss The Girls" and "Double Jeopardy" was among the women who told their Weinstein stories to the New York Times and the New Yorker in 2017, making the #MeToo movement a global phenomenon.

According to his publisher,

Rainbow will take readers

"through his life: from his

childhood as the over- imag-

inative, often misunderstood

son of a Donald Trump clone

and the only boy in second

grade carrying a purse, to

his first job on Broadway

... at Hooters (don't ask), to

the creation of his trademark

comedy style which skewers

Randy Rainbow memoir to be released in late 2021

ries

Rainbow

of the YouTube se-

plans to "set the re-

cord straight" and

let us see the world

through his pink-

rimmed glasses.

"The Randy

Show"

NEW YORK (AP)-Randy Rainbow's first book is very much about Randy Rainbow.

St. Martin's Press announced Wednesday that Rainbow's memoir With Myself" is

"Playing Rainbow

"There's so much fake news out there about me—lies and propaganda!" the 39-year-old Rainbow

the politicos of the day."

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tracy Morgan and his wife of five years are ending their marriage

The actor-comedian's representative said in an emailed statement Wednesday that Morgan and Megan Wollover have filed for divorce.

"This is a challenging time

ASKING FOR A FRIEND

for all involved, so I ask that you please respect our privacy," Morgan said in a statement.

the crash that left Morgan and

Words intended to comfort only trigger man's grief

EAR ABBY: My wife died unexpectedly two years ago, after 18 years of a happy marriage and two kids. While we are doing as well as can be expected, one thing seems to set my grief off. It's when someone refers to my life as my "new normal."

I'm not sure I can put my finger on why this phrase bothers me so much, but if I had to guess, it's because I suspect people are using it to hint that it's time I moved on. Why is it that people who would be deeply offended if I attempted to tell them what to do with their life, seem to think it's acceptable to imply that I have grieved enough?

As I look at my life, I know it is forever changed, and it will never be "normal" again. It will be what it is, but I will have lost forever the love of my life and the mother of my children. Right now, I am trying my best to keep them healthy, working to keep a roof over their heads and dealing with my own grief. (We are all seeing our own counselors.) I have zero time and energy to invest in anything or anyone else.

Am I just holding onto the past? Are these people thoughtlessly saying something hurtful, or is it something completely different?

ANNOYED IN ARKANSAS

DEAR ANNOYED: People often are at a loss about what to say to someone who has lost a parent, a spouse or a child.

While they may be well-meaning, what comes out of their mouths can be hurtful rather than comforting.

Something I have learned from experience, as well as from my readers, is that EVERYONE GRIEVES DIFFER-ENTLY. It's an individual process. Do not assume you know what these people are implying when they make that statement. "New normal" is a catchphrase that's popular now. It is used to describe conditions as the quarantines are being lifted or re-imposed. They may not realize how emotionally loaded that term can be. When it happens again, don't be confrontational, but do tell them how it made you feel.

DEAR ABBY: What's the correct way to break up with someone who lives with you? A friend of mine wants to break up with his girlfriend, who lives in his home along with her adult son and teenage daughter. His concern is she has no place to go. She refuses to work a steady job, so he pays all the bills and supplies her with a vehicle and spending money.

She wants desperately to get married. After two or three years of living with her, he knows he won't marry her. He says she's a nice person, but she's a terrible housekeeper and has no ambition. My friend is a financial planner and works three to four side jobs, etc. He doesn't have a clue how to end this. but he wants to. How should he dissolve this live-in relationship?

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ASKING: Your "friend" needs to summon up the courage to tell this lady he isn't in love with her, doesn't plan to marry her and he wants her to move. When he gives her the unhappy news, he should also give her a date by which he expects her and her "children" to be out of there. Advise him that if he's smart, he should first discuss this with his attorney and, possibly, offer her enough money for a deposit on a place of her (or their) own. He'll be glad he did.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable - and most frequently requested - poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

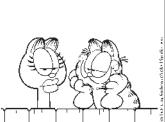
Garfield®

By Jim Davis











Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy





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34 — Lanka

blowtorch

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46 Vicinity

48 Shade

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40 Rack

36 Texas

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CROSSW	/ORD	By Eugene Sheffer		
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nervously	52 — Hill	7 Cowboy's	to fans
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valuables	group)	8 Business	32 Labor
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with	opener?	9 Rise to	tactic
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21 Hearty surface 10 Stood surgeon 23 "Game, 55 Sun. talk 11 Modern **56** CEO's messages 17 Eucalyptus 38 Uses a deq match! 24 Records 57 Lucifer 25 Wagers

quaff

sky

Solution time: 25 mins.

27 Oyster's prize 29 Supermarket sections 31 Kingdoms 35 Hunter in the 37 Fly high 38 Relin-Yesterday's answer 7-31 quish

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rico Rodriguez, 22; B.J. Novak, 41; Zac Brown, 42; J.K. Rowling, 55

Happy Birthday: Look at what you've accomplished, and you'll realize that for the time being. you don't need a change; you need to enjoy and perfect what you already have. Settle in, spend more time with the people you love, and focus on your health and well-being. Make personal growth, enlightenment and romance your priorities. Your numbers are 8, 13, 22, 26, 35, 37, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Hold your ground, but don't make enemies. Being consistent, delivering what you promised, and doing more and talking less will help you gain momentum and deter unwanted challengers and interference. Take time to relax and rejuvenate at the end of the day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Start your day by making changes that will cheer you up. Getting along with the people you live or work with will lead to the help you need to reach your goal. Don't waste time on conditional offers; focus on what's tangible. ���

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to what you know and do best. Joint ventures will not be in your best interest. Verify any information offered to avoid making a mistake Curtail excessive behavior or overspending. Draw from trusted resources, not from outsiders.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Control your temper, and offer answers, solutions and positive alternatives. How you approach others will determine how much you get

done. Know your boundaries, and you'll reach your goal. Take care of unfinished business be-



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Change what you don't like instead of letting things fester. You'll have some great ideas, and offers and suggestions that will help you reassemble the way you move forward will come

your way. Don't be afraid to speak your mind and follow your heart. **2000** LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Experience is the best way to learn. Expand your interests, and it will feed your mind. Procrasti-

nation will be your downfall. Deal with matters intelligently and without hesitation. Let go of the past, and embrace the future. Romance is featured. ••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Learn as much as possible in preparation for the changes you will make. Be innovative and incorporate new technology in your plans. Don't trust anyone to be as thorough as you. Keep your

things, passwords and cash in a safe place. ���� SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Anger won't solve anything, and being evasive will cause more problems. Honesty

and integrity will help you bring what's troubling you to the surface and help you make the necessary changes to improve your life and your relationships with others.

Sudoku is a number-placing

puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with

several given numbers. The

object is to place the numbers

1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column

and each 3x3 box contains the

same number only once. The

difficulty level of the Conceptis

Sudoku increases from Monday

to Saturday.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take control, and bring about the changes you want to happen. Address a matter headon, and listen to what others have to contribute. Working in unison with others will bring about positive change and excellent opportunities. Focus on family matters and togetherness. •••

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Get involved in something you feel passionate about, and make a difference. Let your

experience guide you, and you will find new ways to use tried-and-true methods to excel. Celebrate your achievements with someone you love. OOO

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Honesty is the best policy. Don't pussyfoot around issues that need addressing. A professional change will turn out to be beneficial. Protect your home, family and health. Use intelligence, and rely on your memory to make the best decisions. OOOO

Birthday Baby: You are original, loving and a high flyer. You are helpful and unpredictable. Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

7								1
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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Last Friday's Answer

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7/31

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By DAVID WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY; All the words listed below zontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

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NBA finally set to see games that count again

BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)— Games were canceled. Practice facilities were shuttered. A season ended unceremoniously for eight

teams. The draft process was delayed, as was free agency. Some players tested positive for the coronavirus. Many more took to the streets and used their voices to demand justice and equality as racism and police brutality sparked a nationwide conversation.

The world has changed since the NBA stopped on March 11.

For 22 franchises, however, there is a goal that remains in

The NBA, at long last, is officially back. A re-opening night doubleheader inside the bubble at Walt Disney World awaits Thursday, when New Orleans takes on Utah before a matchup of the top two teams in the Western Conferencethe Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers.

There won't be any fans in attendance, health and safety protocols that were painstakingly written in response to the coronavirus pandemic will be paramount, and teams can't even shower in the arena after games. But after 20 weeks of waiting, wondering and worrying, the 2019-20 NBA season is ready to hit the restart button with a champion scheduled to be crowned in October.

"Nobody's life is pretty much how they planned it to be at this point with the pandemic, so you take it for what it is," Clippers forward and reigning NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard said. "Everybody is happy that a champion will be crowned this year, and if that's the 2020 championship, then we want it. You know, that's how I look at it. This is what the layout is, as



far as to go out there and complete this journey."

The field for the 16-team playoff bracket that will be finalized next month is already largely filled—12 of the 22 teams at Disney have clinched spots and Dallas is on the brink of another one. It leaves three teams vying for two spots in the Eastern Conference, and six teams for one spot in the Western Conference.

For the front-runners like the NBA-leading Milwaukee Bucks and West-leading Lakers, the eight remaining games before the playoffs are

about tuning up their games. For most of the other teams that have clinched berths, it's about securing the best possible playoff seed. And for the hopefuls, it's about finding a way to get into the field and stay at Disney at least a couple weeks longer than planned.

"We want to get back to work," said San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich, whose Spurs will aim to become the first franchise in league history to make 23 consecutive playoff appearances. "We want to do what we're all used to doing. We want to do as much as

we can, safely, to energize the country, to play the games we all love. And as long as we can do that safely, it's a big win for everybody."

Starting Friday and running through Aug. 14, there will be at least four and sometimes as many as seven games per day, spread out over a three-arena corner of the Disney complex. There will be many instances where three games are happening at once. And there will be days that have games running for more than 10 consecutive hours.

After no basketball for what

seemed like forever, a hoops smorgasbord awaits.

"It's the biggest and best AAU tournament ever," New Orleans coach Alvin Gentry said.

The biggest names are here: reigning MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Bucks, LeBron James of the Lakers, scoring champion James Harden of Houston, plus the reigning Finals MVP and All-Star Game MVP in Leonard. Of the 25 players on this season's All-Star rosters, 23 are at Disney and a 24th—Indiana's Domantas Sabonis—may return if his injured left foot heals.

In this March 8, 2020 file photo, Los Angeles Clippers forward Kawhi Leonard (2) and Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (23) chase the ball during the second quarter of an NBA game at STAPLES Center in Los Angeles,

Also here: the defending champions. Toronto lost Leonard and Danny Green to the Clippers in free agency this past offseason-more than a year ago now. And then the Raptors laughed off suggestions that they wouldn't be good enough to make the playoffs. They enter the restart holding the No. 2 seed in the East, looking every bit like a team capable of another very deep run.

"We've been through it," Raptors guard Fred VanVleet said. "We never got the respect before the last couple months of last season. We're not used to getting pats on the back or flowers, so it's not really that different."

There are eight teams not here—Golden State, which went to the NBA Finals in each of the last five seasons before sputtering through an injury-plagued year this season, among them. The others whose seasons ended March 11: Minnesota, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, New York, Charlotte and Chicago.

Ratings for the games at Disney are expected to be big. Every game will be televised, as usual. A sprint to the playoffs is about to begin.

The longest timeout in NBA history is finally over. Game on, again.

"The intensity is going to start to pick up with the games just meaning much more," Philadelphia forward Al Horford said. "This is the position you want to be in."

NEW YORK-Now it comes down to the Masters to determine if any of golf's ma-

jors will have fans this year. A week before the PGA

Championship begins without spectators, the U.S. Open announced Wednesday it would not have fans Sept. 17-20 at Winged Foot in New York because of health and safety concerns from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We will miss the excitement of the fans and what their presence brings to the championship," said Mike Davis, CEO of the USGA.

This already was shaping up to be a different U.S. Open.

It has been scheduled to end on Father's Day every year since 1975, and that was disrupted by the pandemic. The U.S. Open moved from June

US Open will be played without fans

18-21 to the third week in September as the golf schedule was entirely reconfigured to account for a three-month

Then, the U.S. Open had to ditch its identity as the most "open" major championship because it was neither safe nor practical to hold 18-hole and 36-hole qualifiers. Instead, the USGA crafted an all-exempt list that tried to reflect the field it normally gets.

And now the course will be missing the noise, just like the rest of golf.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said even a U.S. Open without fans would be "a welcome sight for sports fans across the country and will help restore a sense of normalcy as we build back better celed in April. than before."

Fans will be watching on NBC, which assumed the TV rights from Fox in an agreement earlier this summer.

"This will not be a typical U.S. Open in several respects, said John Bodenhamer, the USGA's senior managing director of championships. "Would it have been easier to simply cancel or even move the 2020 championship rather than play it in what has been the epicenter of the virus in our country? Possibly. But all of us at the USGA know how much the U.S. Open matters, and we weren't willing to give up on playing it at Winged Foot Golf Club so easily."

The British Open was can-

The Masters moved to Nov. 12-15, and Augusta National is still contemplating what it can accommodate at its private club. With the event still more than three months away, no decisions have been reached as the club weighs various options.

Meanwhile, the Championship starts Aug. 9 at Harding Park in San Francisco, the first major without fans. The PGA Tour returned June 11 without fans and has played every week. Commissioner Jay Monahan said there would not be fans the rest of the season. When asked when he expected them to return, he pointed to the U.S. Open as the next possibility. Now that's gone, meaning the next domestic tournament that could have spectators is Oct. 1-4 in Mississippi for the Sanderson Farms Championship.

'We're starting to get used to it," former U.S. Open champion Webb Simpson said. "But I think next week will feel unusual again, being a major, when there's tens of thousands lining the fairways 10 rows deep. We're used to that, every major being sold out long in advance."

Meanwhile, Rory McIlroy might not appear on the European Tour this year. In comments that will cause consternation on his home circuit, the Northern Irishman indicated that coronavirus fears would restrict his travel from the United States.

The world No. 2 plays in the WGC St. Jude FedEx Classic in Memphis, trying to relocate his form in time for next week's US PGA Championship in San Francisco.

McIlroy will then attempt to defend his FedEx Cup crown before the US Open in September. It was hoped that McIlroy, 31, could appear at Wentworth for the BMW PGA Championship in the second week of September, although that probably was a long shot. Now it seems extremely doubtful that his 2020 campaign will contain any European Tour entries at all.

"Honestly, I don't know if I see myself going back to Europe this year," McIlroy said. "I don't know if I want to travel. I don't know if I want to be exposed to more things and more people." (AP/NBC)

Yanks step in, ruin Orioles' home opener



New York Yankees must adjust on the fly to a sudden change in the schedule, there's no team they'd rather face than the Baltimore Orioles.

Baseball's weird season reached another level of strange Wednesday night when New York stepped in for the Miami Marlins and ruined Baltimore's home opener, hitting three home runs to back right-hander Gerrit Cole in a 9-3 victory.

Although the circumstances surrounding this Yankees-Orioles matchup was unusual, the result was not. The Yankees beat their AL East rivals for the 17th straight time since March 31, 2019, and for the 16th successive time at Camden Yards.

The Orioles were originally slated to launch the home portion of the abbreviated 60-game schedule against Miami, but the Marlins were ordered to take a hiatus after several players and coaches contracted COVID-19 over the weekend.

New York was scheduled to play Philadelphia on Wednesday, but the Phillies' season was put on hold as a precaution because they were Miami's opponent in the opening series.

So Major League Baseball thrust the Yankees and Orioles together while the Marlins and Phillies recover.

"I thought our mindset was really good," New York manager Aaron Boone said of the team's need to change direction without much notice. "I felt like our guys were good to go from the start. Getting here at a decent hour (Tuesday) night was important."

So was the pitching of Cole, who signed as a free agent in December after a starring for the Astros.

Cole (2-0) gave up three runs and four hits in 6 2/3 innings to win his 18th straight decision, six short of Carl Hubbell's record streak in the 1930s. He is unbeaten in his last 24 starts.

In the opener, Cole went five innings in a win over Washington. In this one, he was in full control until faltering a bit in the seventh after his pitch count eclipsed 100.

"I thought it was a big step forward," Cole said. "I liked everything relative to my last start."

Switching gears from the Phillies to the Orioles was made easier by catcher Gary Sanchez, no stranger to Baltimore.

"We adjusted well. Gary was a huge help in this situation," Cole said.

After DJ LeMahieu homered off Asher Wojciechowski (0-1) on the game's second pitch, Aaron Judge and Aaron



Hicks both went deep in the third for a 5-1 lead.

"I thought Asher missed location with the pitches," manager Brandon Hyde said. "All three were fastballs up or not located down. He got the ball into Judge, but he's so strong."

The result was another Yankees blowout win over Baltimore. New York has scored 428 runs against the Orioles over the past three-plus seasons, the highest total in the majors over the span against a single team.

Baltimore played without first baseman Chris Davis, who was not in the ballpark and "unavailable," according to Hyde. The Orioles do not disclose positive tests for CO-VID-19, and Hyde would not explain the slugger's absence.

Davis wasn't the only one missing from Camden Yards. So were the fans, although this isn't the first time the Orioles played at home in an empty stadium. On April 29, 2015, Baltimore hosted the White Sox in

a locked ballpark because of unrest in the city over the death of Freddie Gray, a Black man who died in police custody.

Dwight Smith Jr. homered for the Orioles, who managed only one hit through the first six innings.

Braves 7, Rays 4

Freddie Freeman homered and drove in three runs on a four-hit night, leading the Braves to a victory over Tampa Bay in their homer opener.

Freeman, who was stricken with the coronavirus before the shortened season and became so ill that he feared for his life, has quickly reclaimed his place as one of the game's most feared hitters.

He hit his first homer of the season in the third, a two-run shot into the empty seats in right field, and added an RBI single that capped a three-run sixth after Tampa Bay pulled ahead with three runs in the top half.

The Braves snapped Tampa Bay's four-game winning

streak as the teams met for the third straight time, having played in St. Petersburg the two previous nights.

Red Sox 6, Mets 5

After nearly a month at Fenway Park, the Boston Red Sox needed a change of scenery. Even if it meant facing Jacob deGrom.

Christian Vazquez hit a tying home run off Seth Lugo in the seventh inning and a two-run single against Justin Wilson n a three-run eighth, rallying the Red Sox over the Mets Wednesday night when New York's bullpen could not hold a lead for the two-time Cy Young Award winner.

At 108-year-old Fenway, with the major leagues' most cramped clubhouses, Red Sox players used luxury suites to get dressed for the past month instead of their regular locker room. After a 1-4 start, they welcomed Citi Field's visitors' locker room.

"We're all together here in

New York Yankees starting pitcher Gerrit Cole throws a pitch to the Baltimore Orioles during the first inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, July 29, 2020, in Baltimore.

the clubhouse," said Nathan Eovaldi, who allowed two runs over five innings. "We got the mask on. We're staying same apart and stuff like that, but we're all together in the clubhouse. And I think that's what we miss the most. It's nice having the suites and everything, but I feel like we never see each other."

Brewers 3, Pirates 0

Milwaukee's Brandon Woodruff allowed one hit and struck out 10 while working into the seventh inning as the Brewers won at Pittsburgh.

Woodruff (1-1) retired 19 of 21 batters, allowing a swinging bunt single to Phil Evans in the first. Pittsburgh didn't manage another baserunner until Evans walked leading off the seventh. Woodruff's stuff was so overpowering the Pirates only hit one ball to the outfield during his 6 1/3 innings, a lazy flyball to left by Gregory Polanco in the fifth.

Reds 12, Cubs 7

Mike Moustakas and Nick Senzel homered in their returns from a COVID-19 scare, Nick Castellanos added a grand slam, and host Cincinnati ended a four-game losing streak.

Sonny Gray (2-0) extended his major league record to 35 consecutive starts allowing six hits or less. He gave up only Ian Happ's double and fanned 11 as he pitched into the seventh inning.

Nationals 4, Blue Jays O

Adam Eaton's bases-loaded chopper broke a scoreless tie in the 10th inning on a close play and Asdrubal Cabrera followed with a three-run triple, helping Washington snap a three-game losing streak by beating the playing-homegames-on-the-road Blue Jays.

In a quirky game befitting this pandemic-altered, upside-down season, Toronto's team played its "home opener" at Washington—batting in the bottom half of each inning, wearing its white uniforms, playing its players' walk-up music and even blaring the song "OK Blue Jays," the club's traditional seventh-inning stretch staple.

Tigers 5, Royals 4

JaCoby Jones hit a tie-breaking solo homer in the seventh inning, and Detroit's bullpen came through again in a win over visiting Kansas City.

A night after pitching six scoreless innings in a win over the Royals, the Tigers' relievers held Kansas City without a baserunner for four.

Detroit rallied from a 4-0 deficit thanks in large part to Jones, who doubled twice before connecting off Ian Kennedy (0-1) for his third homer of the year.

White Sox 4, Indians O

Yasmani Grandal and Eloy Jimenez hit sacrifice flies and visiting Chicago scored four runs in the ninth inning—three charged to ineffective closer Brad Hand.

The Indians got eight terrific innings from No. 5 starter Zach Plesac. He struck out a careerhigh 11, shut out the White Sox on three hits and continued a strong run of Cleveland pitching to start the season.

Rookie Luis Robert hit a two-run single in the ninth as Chicago snapped a three-game losing streak and salvaged one game in the series.

Rangers 7, Diamondbacks 4

Joey Gallo hit a tying, tworun homer in the eighth inning and Texas scored three more runs after that to snap a three-game losing streak by winning at home

After Gallo lined an opposite-field shot to left off Andrew Chafin (0-1) for his second homer of the season, the Rangers loaded the bases with two outs. Elvis Andrus then hit a two-run single before Nick Solak added an RBI single.

Todd Frazier hit his first homer and had two doubles for Texas.

Rockies 5, Athletics 1

German Marquez struck out eight over six impressive innings to bounce back after losing on Opening Day at Texas, and Colorado wrapped up a successful season-opening trip.

Charlie Blackmon delivered an insurance run with an RBI double in the eighth, then reached on an error in the ninth that led to a pair of runs.

The Rockies went 4-1 on their trip after beating the A's 8-3 on Tuesday night. They now go home to Coors Field.

Twins 3, Cardinals O

Rich Hill pitched five scoreless innings in a smooth Minnesota debut, Eddie Rosario homered and Nelson Cruz has an RBI double as the Twins won at home.

Alex Avila, another Minnesota newcomer, had an RBI single. Taylor Rogers pitched a perfect ninth for his first save, and the Twins finished a two-game sweep to improve to 4-1.

Bears' QB battle about to heat up



CHICAGO (AP)—The Chicago Bears declared the quarterback competition

between Mitchell Trubisky and former Super Bowl MVP Nick Foles an open one during the offseason.

It's about to click into gear, though it won't play out quite the way they envisioned. With no preseason games, more emphasis will be placed on the reads they make in practice.

"When we get a chance to go out there, we're evaluating those quarterbacks with every single play," coach Matt Nagy said. "Not just throw, but every single check that they make at the line of scrimmage, every bit of leadership that they show in and out of the huddle, we're there watching how they react to a specific play in practice. That got squeezed down a little bit."

The Bears and every other team around the NFL are staring at a season like no other





Mitchell Trubisky, left, and former Super Bowl MVP Nick Foles gear up as they battle for the starting quarterback position with the Chicago Bears.

because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Veterans started

FLASHBACK

From Page 28

for NCAA Division I school University of Hawaii-Manoa and is now based in Arizona, also owns the CNMI record mark in the 100m breaststroke (1:07.29), which he registered in the 2012 Guam Champion-

Wong has the second most national marks in the men's division behind CNMI Sports Hall of Famer and Olympian

Jonathan Sakovich, who up to this day has his seven marks undefeated. Sakovich, now a collegiate coach, holds all but one of the records in freestyle (100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1,500m) plus the 200m butterfly and 400M IM.

Other national record holders in the men's field are Kai Staal (50m freestyle), Kensuke Kimura (50m, 100m, and 200m backstroke events), and Alex Screen (100m butterfly).

reporting to camps this week. But instead of jumping right into the grind, they're taking a slower approach.

Teams won't be in pads until the week of Aug. 17 after the league and union agreed to scrap the preseason in favor of focusing on strength and conditioning in the early going. General manager Ryan Pace and Nagy were hoping to use the exhibitions to help decide who would open the season as their No. 1 quarterback.

With offseason activities also canceled because of the coronavirus, the Bears won't have much time to decide who will start when they visit Detroit on Sept. 13.

"I think a lot of it starts with the quarterback and making sure we're creating those situations where we have a competitive environment with no preseason games where we can evaluate our whole roster," general manager Ryan Pace said. "And these (coaches) are doing it, I have a ton of confidence in it, we've spent a ton of time on it and it's really appreciated."

The Bears hope to bounce back from their most disappointing season in years. They missed the playoffs at 8-8 after going 12-4 to win the NFC North in 2018.

Trubisky, the No. 2 overall draft pick in 2017, took a big step back in his third season. The fact that the Bears drafted him ahead of Patrick Mahomes and Deshaun Watson only increased the heat on him.

The Bears acquired Foles from Jacksonville in March to compete with Trubisky. The 2018 Super Bowl MVP for Philadelphia, he was limited to four games with the Jaguars because of injuries, and lost his job to Gardner Minshew after signing a four-year deal.

Whoever starts the opener could be on a short leash after Nagy called the competition a "seasonal process."

"You obviously want that starter in a perfect world to be able to go win a Super Bowl," he said. "But there are so many different things that can happen. Especially this season."

The Monsters of the Midway will be without at least one important player after nose tackle Eddie Goldman opted out of the 2020 season because of concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic. A Pro Bowl alternate last season, he has started 67 games since the Bears drafted him out of Florida State in the second round in 2015. The Bears have ranked among the top 10 against the run the past two seasons.

"You just recognize that this is personal for everyone and you're just very respectful and supportive of that decision, so both Matt and I talked to Eddie," Pace said. "We relayed that to Eddie. Eddie is an important part of our team and our family. And we're going to welcome him back at the appropriate time, so I think you're just really supportive of these individual choices when a player makes that."

Pace said no other players have informed him they are opting out. He's not sure if any more will, but he is confident that the safety measures the Bears have implemented at Halas Hall will ease concerns.

SANDLOT

From Page 28

Little League International ruled stuck with the age requirement, leaving Camacho and company in dismay since they missed a lot of opportunities for the past two years.

"It was so disappointing not to finish our last year with the Little League program. I've been playing in the Little League since I was 9 years old so it's really hard not to play here in the past two years," Norita said.

"I am looking at playing off-island, probably in Washington. I would love to continue playing baseball," the two-time CNMI All-Star said.

Camacho is also eyeing to suit up for either a high school or college team when he moves off-island.

"For now, I just want to focus on school and try my best to go to the states so I could play baseball there," the Braves pitcher said.

Though their Little League stint was cut short, both Camacho and Norita were thankful



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2015 file photo, the CNMI's Tonchu Norita waits for the pitch during their game against China in the 2015 Little League Asia-Pacific and Middle East Tournament in Guilin, China.

to be part of the program and for the lessons and memories they had while playing for various teams.

"My best memory in the Little League would be our championship game in my last year in the Major because I pitched in that finals and we won," Camacho said.

The Tanapag resident was talking of their 7-6 victory over the Talaabwogh Falcons in the "Battle of the North" for the Major division crown in 2017. The Braves' title win foiled the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Braves players gather for a photo after playing in the finals of the Major division of the 2015 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Falcons' bid for a sweep that season, as the latter earlier took the Junior and Senior championships. Camacho then sweetened the upset after taking the MVP honors in the division.

Norita, on the other hand, best remembered his selection to the CNMI All-Star Team—in 2015 for the Major division and in 2018 for the Junior League.

"We went to China in 2015 and in the Philippines in 2018. It's nice to travel and play against teams from other countries," said Norita.

The two players thanked their coaches/managers, teammates, and others involved in the program, which taught them a lot of valuable lessons on and off the field.

"Playing in the Little League helped me stay away from trouble," Camacho said.

"Little League taught me how to be a team player and be confident about my skills. I will definitely miss my teammates and coaches and wish them good luck next season. Enjoy Little League baseball while you can still play," Norita said.



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NBA finally set to see games that count again

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Yanks step in, ruin Orioles' home opener

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

LITTLE LEAGUE GRADUATES

On to the next sandlot



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI Little League All-Star Team members and officials pose with their counterparts in the Philippines after their game in the 2015 Little League Asia-Pacific and Middle East Tournament in Guilin, China.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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ittle League products Tonchu Norita and Heath Camacho are aiming to play baseball off-island after unfortunately missing their last two seasons in the grassroots program.

among the many players who will be ineligible (age cut-off is 16 years old) for the Senior

Norita and Camacho are League division of Saipan Little League Baseball's season next year. The two Braves players would have had their

farewell season this year if not for the COVID-19 pandemic canceling the competition. The Senior League division did not also have games last year, as SLLB opted to hold only the Minor and Major matches, as the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios was still unplayable back then after it sustained significant damage

from Super Typhoon Yutu. "It's so frustrating that we would not be able to play in the Little League next year, especially since we we're not able to have the Senior League for two seasons," said Cama-

cho, who will turn 17 vears old next year.

Coaches and even player have hoped that Little League In-

ternational would issue a waiver to allow aging Senior League players to compete next season since this year's competition was shelved due to the pandemic. However,

See SANDLOT on Page 27



In this 2016 file photo, Heath Camacho pitches for the Braves during one of their Major division games in the Saipan Little League Baseball at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

THE REPORTER'S ACADEMY LIK

In this 2013 file photo, the CNMI's Rezne Wong does the backstroke part of the 200m individual medley race in the 15th FINA World Championships at the Palau Sant Jord in Barcelona, Spain.

Flashback: Record swim for Wong

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Seven years ago, on July 31, in Barcelona, Spain, the CNMI's Rezne Wong reset the national record in the 200m indi- Northern Mariana Islands swim in Spain, vidual medley after Swimming Federation

completing his first Championships.

Wong finished the race in 2:09.59 to break the CNMI national mark (2:10.10), which, he incidentally recorded on July 27, 2011 during the 14th FINA World Championships in Shanghai, China. The many-time World Championships participant was on

Heat 1 of the qualifying race

and defeated Dominican Republic's Jean Lula Gomez (2:10.78) and fellow Oceania Swimming Federation swimmer Douglas Miller (2:14:27)

of Fiji. With his record Wong managed

to bring his naevent in the 15th FINA World tional record number to five. He holds the national mark in the 50m breaststroke (31.31 seconds). 200m breaststroke (2:23.35), and 50m butterfly (26.66 seconds), which he all posted in the 14th FINA World Championships nine years ago. Wong, who called it a career in 2016 after swimming

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